



SPEECHES

OF

THE MARQUIS OF RIPON,

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA,

1883-84.

*Reported by F. W. LATIMER, Registrar, Office of Private
Secretary to the Viceroy.*

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SPEECHES

BY

THE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.

THE CENTRAL PROVINCES LOCAL SELF- GOVERNMENT BILL.

[THE Central Provinces Local Self-Government Bill was passed into Law in the Legislative Council on Tuesday, the 12th January 1883.¹ In moving that the Bill be passed, Mr. Crosthwaite took the opportunity of explaining in detail the plan and the principles on which it had been framed, with the object of making the law clear and intelligible to those who would have to work it. The Honourables Syed Ahmed Khan, Mr. Hunter, Raja Siva Prasad, Mr. Ilbert, and Mr. Gibbs spoke in support of the Bill. His Excellency the Viceroy said :—]

I really have nothing to add to the remarks which have been made by previous speakers in the course of this discussion. The Bill before us is, as has been pointed out, a Bill relating to the Central Provinces only, and consequently it is framed in accordance with the special circumstances which prevail in that district.

The Government do not put this Bill forward as a model measure which they would recommend to be followed by all the other Local Governments throughout the country. It might almost be said that the Central Provinces is one of the least advanced districts in India to which a system of local self-government can be considered to be at all applicable. It is therefore natural that a measure to be applied to a district of that description should be

¹ For a previous speech by the Viceroy on this Bill, see Vol. I., page 295.
VOL. II.

The Central Provinces Local Self-Government Bill.

framed in a manner which might not be suitable to the circumstances of districts of a much more advanced description; and I desire that it should be distinctly understood that this Bill relates to the Central Provinces, and the Central Provinces only. It is a measure which we have reason to believe is well suited to the circumstances and people of those provinces; but, doubtless, many of the provisions which find a place in this Bill will not be considered by the heads of Local Governments in other parts of India either necessary or suitable for the populations under their charge. That being so, there is really very little necessity for me to make any remarks upon the details of this Bill. They have been ably explained by my honourable friend Mr. Crosthwaite, and commented on, with his full knowledge of such questions, by my honourable and learned friend Mr. Ilbert; and I do not think, therefore, that there are any matters upon which any further explanation with respect to the views, intentions, and objects of the Government can be required from me.

I will, however, make just one remark upon a single point of detail, alluded to by my honourable friend who introduced this discussion. He spoke of the section of the Bill—section 34—which relates to the framing of rules by the Chief Commissioner, and he said that some persons might think that a very wide discretion was left to the Local Government in respect to the framing of those rules. Now, it is very important that all persons who have to consider Bills of this description should bear in mind that the provisions which are contained in measures which will form part of the law of the land are hard-and-fast provisions which cannot be altered without referring again to the Legislature and passing a new Act. Now, in a matter of this kind, particularly at its commencement, it is very undesirable to lay down more hard-and-fast rules than are necessary. What you want is, that the system should be elastic; and that you should ascertain by practical experi-

The Central Provinces Local Self-Government Bill.

ment what modes of self-government are most suited to the requirements and idiosyncrasies of the people in different parts of the country; for, if you tie the hands of the Government too tight by the regulations of an Act of the Legislature, that elasticity which is so desirable in order to arrive at the system best suited to fulfil the wishes and meet the requirements of the country will be altogether lost, and the Government will find itself bound, whether the measure is in practice found to be suitable or not, to enforce the provisions of the law, or else to go through the long and complicated process of again referring the matter to the Legislature. But those who are inclined to think that these rules are all too elastic, should bear in mind that we have, in this Bill, in fulfilment of the promise made in the Resolution of the Government, issued a short time ago, in respect to rules of this description, distinctly laid down that the rules issued under section 34 shall be published beforehand in draft and left for the consideration of the public for a certain period, in order that, if any objections are felt to them, those objections may be fairly represented to the Local Government.

And, certainly, if ever there was a case in which we may trust implicitly that the rules which will be made—I hope speedily—under the Bill about to become law, will be those best suited to carry out the provisions of this measure in a friendly spirit towards the spread of self-government, it is this; because it is due to Mr. Morris, whose time in the Central Provinces, I regret to think, is drawing to a close, but who nevertheless will have an opportunity of making the rules under this Bill, that I should say again, what I said on the occasion of a previous discussion at Simla, that there is no civil servant in India who has shown himself, long before this question was taken up by the present Administration, more desirous of applying largely and wisely the principles of local self-government than Mr. Morris. The best thanks of the Government are due

Distribution of Prizes at the Calcutta Madrassah.

to that distinguished public servant for this part of his policy, as well as for the ability with which he has so long administered the Central Provinces, over which he has been placed; and I feel the most entire confidence that, in entrusting the initiation of the system established by this Bill to his hands, we are leaving it to one who fully and heartily approves of the principles of the Government on this subject as laid down in their Resolutions on local self-government.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE CALCUTTA
MADRASSAH.

17th Jan. 1883.

[THE Viceroy presided at the annual distribution of prizes to the students of the Calcutta Madrassah on Wednesday afternoon, the 17th January 1883. The Madrassah was founded by Warren Hastings in 1781, with the view of enabling the Mahomedans of Bengal to acquire such a knowledge of Arabic literature and law as would qualify them for the Judicial Department, and was endowed by him with a zamindari yielding an estimated rental of Rs. 29,000. In July, 1819, the zamindari was resumed, and the rental was commuted to a fixed annual charge on the treasury of Rs. 30,000. The institution consists of two departments and a branch School. In the Arabic Department, Arabic and Persian literature, logic, rhetoric, and Mahomedan law are taught; the course extends over six years.

The proceedings were held in a spacious open square in the centre of the building, Mr. Rivers Thompson, the Bishop of Calcutta, the Hon. J. Gibbs and Miss Gibbs, and other ladies and gentlemen, besides a large assembly of the leading Hindoo and Mahomedan gentlemen of Calcutta, being present. His Excellency—who was accompanied by Earl DeGrey, Mr. H. W. Primrose, and Capt. Harbord, Aide-de-Camp—arrived shortly after 4 o'clock, and was received by the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Gibbs, and others. Dr. Hearnle, the Officiating Principal, then read the annual report, after which the Viceroy distributed the prizes. His Excellency then addressed the assembly as follows :—]

Mr. Rivers Thompson, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I am very glad to have learnt, from the report which was read at the commencement of our proceedings this afternoon,

Distribution of Prizes at the Calcutta Madrassah.

that the progress which has been made by this institution during the past year is of such a nature as to be highly satisfactory to all who are interested in the welfare of this Madrassah; and I rejoice to be able upon this occasion to repeat those congratulations which were offered here last year by my friend Mr. Justice Wilson, when he said that the progress that this institution had made during the twelve months which were then drawing to a close had been such as might fairly satisfy all who were interested in its success. It is very pleasing to know now, after another year has passed, that that progress has still been fully maintained.

This institution may claim a century of life, and it is, I believe, among the oldest of the educational establishments now existing in India; but, like all ancient institutions, it is essentially necessary that in a time of change and progress like that in which we live, the Calcutta Madrassah should maintain a steady advance, and should suit itself, as time goes on, to the changing circumstances of the period in which it has to discharge its important duties. What may have been a very satisfactory and sufficient education in the days of Warren Hastings, when this Madrassah was founded, would be regarded by all men as altogether inadequate to the needs of the present day; and while I am very glad to know that this institution has progressed with the advance of the time, I desire very earnestly to impress upon those who are concerned in its management, the necessity for steadily continuing that progress, and of making this college more and more fitted for the important work which it has now to discharge. And when I say this, I have not forgotten that this is especially a Mahomedan institution, and that it is not for me to express an opinion upon the peculiar educational needs of the Mahomedan community; but this, at least, I may say with great certainty,—that a wide, solid, and liberal education is necessary in these times for men of every race, creed, and class, if they desire to maintain

Distribution of Prizes at the Calcutta Madrassah.

their proper place in the battle of life, and to hold their own among their fellow-countrymen. (*Applause.*) As you all know, it is a cardinal maxim of the policy of the Government of India, that we should always preserve an attitude of strict impartiality towards all creeds and classes in this country. (*Hear, hear.*) What we have to do is, not to look to the race from which a man has sprung, nor to the creed which he professes, but to enquire what are his personal qualifications and what is his individual conduct; and, under circumstances like these, it behoves, as it seems to me, the leading men of every community in India to take care that their brethren in race and faith do not fall behind in the struggle of life, and to unite earnestly for that purpose. The educational task of to-day, gentlemen, is an arduous task, and for its full and complete accomplishment it requires the united action of forces of every description—of the Government on the one side, and of private individuals on the other—of public assistance and of religious zeal; and, above all, it is a task which needs that men should cast aside all mere regard for individual opinion or personal preference, and that they should unite on all hands to accomplish one of the most important and greatest works which can be done in this day for the benefit of the Indian people. (*Applause.*) I can truly say, gentlemen, that I feel a great interest in the welfare of this institution, as I do in that of all the institutions of higher and middle education in the land. You know very well that I earnestly desire to see the extension and improvement of primary education; but it would be a great error indeed if any man were to suppose that I did not desire, with equal earnestness, the maintenance and advancement of higher and middle education. (*Applause.*) And it seems to me that there are features in to-day's proceedings which may give the utmost encouragement to the friends of higher education, and especially to those who are interested in the prosperity of this institution.

Distribution of Prizes at the Calcutta Madrasah.

We have heard read out to us to-day a long list of donations of Mahomedan gentlemen who have come forward upon this occasion to testify to their deep interest in this place of education. I need not remind you of the names that are contained in this list, or of the important and many donations that have been announced. I need not recall to your recollection the Rs. 15,000 which have been given by the Amir-i-Kabir and the Rs. 6,000 by Syed Lutf Ali Khan, and the Rs. 3,000 by Syed Ali Khan, Bahadur, and the other donations mentioned this afternoon. They show (and I am most gratified that it should be so) the strong interest that these Mahomedan gentlemen feel in the success of this institution for Mahomedan education, and their ready willingness to aid it with generous assistance. And, gentlemen, I esteem it an honour that many of the donors upon this occasion have thought fit to connect my name with the scholarships and prizes which they have established; and I can assure them and you that they could not have done anything more gratifying to me than to come forward, as they have done to-day, to contribute out of the wealth with which God has endowed them for the maintenance of this educational institution. (*Applause.*) But, gentlemen, there is another circumstance connected with to-day's proceedings which I have heard with yet greater satisfaction, and that is the contribution which has been announced as having been made by the Mahárájáh of Durbhungah. Gentlemen, that distinguished nobleman could scarcely have done a better deed than to give this proof of the sympathy which he and other Hindoos can feel for a Mahomedan place of education. We have heard, alas! on more than one recent occasion, of unhappy and disgraceful disturbances which have sprung up out of religious quarrels in more than one part of the country; and no man in India can do a better act than to set the example which the Mahárájáh of Durbhungah has set to-day, of that union in a work for the public good, which, if the

Distribution of Prizes at the Calcutta Madrassah.

example is widely followed, will tend more than anything else to put an end to these animosities which are a discredit to the country, and to bind together in close and intimate connection men of all creeds and classes in this wide land. (*Applause.*) I see, then, in these donations and in the interest which they testify as being felt in this college, a bright promise of future progress and continued prosperity for the Calcutta Madrassah; and I can truly say that I shall watch with the deepest interest the advance of this institution. But before I conclude my observations, I want to say a few words to those who, after all, have more, perhaps, to do with the success and prosperity of this college even than the munificent donors whose gifts have been announced on this occasion. I would desire very earnestly to exhort the students of this Madrassah to do their part in promoting its prosperity. We have a homely proverb in England which runs to this effect—"You may take a horse to the water, but you cannot make him drink." So, gentlemen, you may bring students to this Madrassah; you may shower down before them all the rich stores of learning; you may endow them with scholarships and offer them prizes; but if they do not exert themselves, if they do not do their part in the work which has to be done here, all that others do will be ineffectual, and they will obtain no benefit from the exertions of their friends. It rests, then, with you—the students of this institution—to determine whether, as years go on, it shall be a continued and increasing success. The character of the students determines mainly the character of every place of study, and the reputation of this college is in your hands. And in thus exhorting you to uphold that reputation, I might remind you that the success or failure of your career in life depends upon the use which you make of the few years of fertile youth which you will pass upon these benches. I might put before you in vivid colours how, if you waste your time here, you will be left behind in the keen struggle of these days, by those who

Distribution of Prizes at the Calcutta Madrassah.

value what you despise; and I might say with truth that worldly success and worldly fame will be the reward of your industry and will crown your efforts. But I prefer to set before you an aim less personal and less material, and to invite you to remember how great a place in the history of human learning has been, in past times, occupied by Mahomedan men of letters and men of science. Turn your eyes to those famous schools from whence so many branches of knowledge spread over Europe in the Middle Ages, and see what was then accomplished by men with whom you claim community of thought and of opinion (*applause*); and then determine that it shall not be your fault if you do not do something, little though it may be, to raise the standard of your own special education, and to make its future somewhat less unworthy of its brilliant past. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

I have one more word to say, which will perhaps not be altogether unacceptable to my young friends here. I want to ask Dr. Hœrnle whether he will be good enough to grant a holiday for the rest of the week to the students of this Madrassah.

[The students were then called upon to give three cheers for the Viceroy, which was warmly responded to. The proceedings then concluded.]

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE, 1882, AMENDMENT
BILL.

2nd Feb 1883.

[IN the Legislative Council held on the 2nd February, Mr. Ilbert moved for, and obtained, leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects. Mr. Ilbert explained the existing law on the subject, which had been settled in 1872, and the principles by which the Government had been guided in framing the proposals which he was now asking leave to lay before the Council. "The Government," he said, "are of opinion that the time has come when the settlement which was arrived at in 1872 may with safety, and ought in justice, to be re-considered; we are of opinion that, if this question is re-opened, it ought to be settled on a permanent and stable foundation; and, finally, we are of opinion that no change in the law can be satisfactory or stable which fails to remove at once and completely from the Code every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions. . . . The only object which we have in view is to provide for the impartial and effectual administration of justice. It is by that test that we desire our proposals to be tried. If they are tried by that test, I am not without a confident hope that they will commend themselves both to the European and to the Asiatic subjects of Her Majesty as reasonable and just."

Mr. Evans, who said that he was not well acquainted with the rules of debate in the Council, wished to know whether the principles of the measure were to be debated on the present occasion or at a later stage. Most of the non-official members of the Council had, like himself, heard for the first time to-day, what the proposed measure was. The question involved was one of the gravest importance to the English community in India, and he would ask His Lordship if he considered that it was more convenient to debate the principle of the Bill on the motion for leave to introduce it, than that the motion should be postponed so as to give time to the non-official English community in India, which was scattered far and wide in the various provinces, to make their voices heard: at any rate, he thought that it should be postponed to-day, as he felt that otherwise he could not give full consideration to it.

His Excellency the President said :—]

Nobody is pledged in the smallest degree by the introduction of this or any other Bill, and it would be obviously very unfair that Honourable Members of Council should be called upon to express an opinion on the principle of a

Criminal Procedure Code, 1882, Amendment Bill.

Bill which they have not seen. Nothing could be more lucid than the statement made by my honourable and learned friend who proposes to introduce the Bill, but, until the Bill itself is in the hands of the public, it would be unfair both to them and to the Government that any opinion should be expressed upon it, or that any discussion should take place upon the measure in this Council.

No one knows better than my honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans how difficult it is to understand a Bill, even with the clearest explanations of its provisions, until you have the Bill itself before you; and the public are sometimes perhaps a little too much inclined to criticise by anticipation measures of which they know nothing and have seen nothing; and I myself should not be in the smallest degree inclined to give any sort of encouragement to a procedure which, as I have said, is unfair both to the Government and to the public.

I need not, I am sure, say that the Government has no desire to push this matter forward without giving full time for its consideration. The proper occasion, I think, for discussing the principle of the Bill will be on its reference to a Select Committee. I look upon that stage of the procedure as standing in the place of what is called 'the second reading' in Parliament at home. In the House of Lords, a Bill is often brought in and put on the table without saying a word; in the House of Commons, this is not the case, but the occasions on which discussions arise on the introduction of a Bill are rare, and debate on the principle of the measure takes place on the second reading.

What I would, therefore, suggest would be that leave should now be given to bring in this Bill; that it should be brought in at the next meeting of the Council, and then published; and that due time should be given, before the motion is made for its reference to a Select Committee, in order to enable Members of Council to consider it

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when they receive it in print, and to be prepared to discuss it fully after they have acquired a perfect knowledge of its provisions.

[Mahárájá Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore having asked permission to address the Council on the subject of the Bill, the Viceroy remarked:—]

Although, according to strict rule, the Mahárájá has lost his turn for speaking, I am sure that this Council would wish me to give him leave to address them. And, in doing so, I should like to take the opportunity of expressing the great regret I feel that this, I believe, is the last occasion on which we shall have the presence in the Council of our honourable colleague Mahárájá Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore. During the long period of his service in the Legislative Council, the Mahárájá has distinguished himself by his fairness, his enlightened views, and his remarkable courtesy towards all the Members of this Council.

The Government of India have derived very great advantage from the presence of my honourable friend in the Council, and it is a source of deep regret to me that the fair rule of giving a chance to others to take their place in this Council, and, therefore, of not unduly prolonging the presence in it of any one particular member, added to the Mahárájá's own desire to be relieved of duties which clash with his other engagements, has necessitated his retirement, and occasioned the great loss to the Council which must result from his absence from it.

[Mahárájá Jotindra Mohan Tagore expressed the grateful thanks of himself and his countrymen, to the Viceroy, for redeeming the promise, held out last session, to amend that portion of the Criminal Procedure Code relating to the trial of British-born subjects, and thus to remove an anomaly which had been a source of standing complaint to his countrymen. He felt, on leaving the Council, an honest pride in having occupied a seat in it while this and other great measures of reform had been either initiated or passed under the auspices of Lord Ripon; and he concluded by tendering His Excellency his grateful thanks for the manner in which he had referred to his services.]

CALCUTTA TRADES ASSOCIATION DINNER.

[THE annual dinner of the Calcutta Trades Association took 6th Feb. 1883. place at the Town Hall on Tuesday evening, the 6th February, the Viceroy being present for the first time on such an occasion. Upwards of two hundred gentlemen, of whom nearly one hundred were invited guests, sat down to dinner, including the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, the Chief Justice, the Bishop of Calcutta, the Hon. Sir Steuart Bayley, the Rev. Dr. P. Goethals, the Hon. Mr. Ilbert, the Hon. Mr. Hunter, Lieutenant-General T. F. Wilson, Archdeacon Baly, the Hon. H. S. Cunningham, Major-General Greaves, Sir Jotindrâ Mohan Tagore, Babu Kristo Dass Pal, Nawab Abdul Latif, Sir Walter DeSouza, the Hon. C. Macaulay, Mr. H. W. Primrose, Lord William Beresford, Messrs. J. Westland, A. Mackenzie, D. Barbour, Horace Cockerell, &c, &c.

After the toast of "The Queen-Empress and the Royal Family" had been proposed and drunk, the Master of the Association (Mr. D. Zemin) rose to propose the toast of the Viceroy's health, and in doing so was received with loud and prolonged cheering. Mr. Zemin expressed the great pleasure it afforded himself and the Association to welcome the Viceroy for the first time at their annual festival,—a pleasure which was greatly enhanced by the fact that Lord Ripon was so trusted, respected, and so highly regarded by all ranks and classes in India. He reviewed briefly the principal measures of the Viceroy's administration, and dwelt upon the ultimate and lasting good which must result from His Excellency's rule in India. The Viceroy, on rising to respond to the toast, was received with much cheering. He said :—]

Mr. Master, Mr. Rivers Thompson, and Gentlemen,—I thank you most sincerely for the kind and cordial manner in which you have received the toast that has just been proposed to you; and I thank you, Sir, exceedingly for the terms in which you have been good enough to speak of the course which I have pursued since I first took upon me the duties of the great office which I have now the honour to fill. You have told us, Mr. Zemin, that this is the first occasion upon which any Viceroy or Governor-General of India has been present at this annual dinner of the Calcutta Trades Association. I cannot but think that that circum-

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stance must be to a great extent the result of accident, for I am quite sure that any of those distinguished men who have preceded me in the office which I now hold, would have been very glad to have come here on previous occasions of this kind, for the purpose of marking the respect which they must have entertained for this Association, and their sense of the services which it is calculated to render to the trade of this great city. (*Applause.*) But there is, perhaps, in one respect some propriety in the fact, accidental though it may be, that I am the first Viceroy who has been present on an occasion of this kind; because when I look back to my past public career I remember that I have, perhaps, been more intimately connected in England with great trading communities than any of those who have preceded me in the Government of India. (*Applause.*) I have never been connected with trade myself, but during the time that I had a seat in the House of Commons, I always represented great trading and manufacturing constituencies, and I have therefore learnt from the earliest commencement of my public life to take a deep interest in all that concerns the development of trade, commerce, and manufactures, and to make a close and careful study of questions connected with the industry of the country (*applause*) and of the principles which ought to guide the legislation of India quite as much as they have guided the legislation of England. (*Hear, hear, and applause.*)

Sir,—I will not follow you through the catalogue of the acts of the present Government of India, which you have passed in review. To do so would take too long, and it would be out of place upon this occasion; but there is one subject which has occupied a large portion of our attention, and with which we have had a good deal to do, upon which it seems to me that I may with propriety say something on an occasion like the present. You have said, with great truth, that it has been, and is, the earnest desire of the Government of India to encourage, by all legitimate

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means, the development of private enterprise in this country. (*Applause.*) I remember to have heard it said, now many years ago, in the days of the East India Company, that there was a feeling that the policy then pursued in India was one which discouraged private enterprise, and looked coldly upon the investment of private capital in this country. I do not pronounce any opinion upon this occasion as to the justice of that view; but whether it was true then or whether it was not, this at least I can say without any hesitation—that the Government of India of the present day regards it as a matter of primary importance that private enterprise should be developed in this country to the utmost possible extent, and that it looks with the highest satisfaction upon every increase in the investment of private capital in Indian undertakings. (*Loud applause.*) Nay, gentlemen, I will go further, and I will say that I shall always regard it as a subject of congratulation if I see any opportunity of handing over to private enterprise any of the work which is now performed by the already overburdened Government of this country. (*Continued applause.*) I am not one of those, it is true, who believe that there is very much which any Government can do directly for the encouragement of industry or commerce; I am apt to think that any Government in any country is much more capable of doing injury than it is of giving effectual encouragement to trade. I believe that the first duty of a Government is to remove all unnecessary restrictions and to abstain from all irritating and needless interference with industry and commerce (*loud applause*); but when that has been done, and when that principle is steadily applied, there doubtless are ways in which it may be the legitimate function of Government to do something for the promotion and advancement of commerce and trade; and no doubt in this country—where the Government is accustomed, and is obliged at present, to undertake many things which are not undertaken by the Government

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at home—there are modes in which such encouragement may be offered in a perfectly legitimate manner; and this also I would say, that if ever there was a country in which it was of the highest importance that trade should flourish and spread, that manufactories should be established, and that new industries should be introduced, that country is India (*applause*); for I believe that there are very few things which would do more to benefit the great mass of the population of this vast peninsula—which is now mainly (I may almost say exclusively) dependent upon the land for its sustenance and support—than that there should be introduced in every part of India, other industries and other means of employment. (*Applause.*) I believe that the keen competition and the great pressure upon the land is one of the greatest difficulties with which the Government have to deal at the present time. Now, what can the Government do in this direction? This great Government is, as you all know, a very large consumer of goods, of many and varied descriptions. It makes vast purchases every year. Can those purchases be conducted in a manner more calculated in the future than they have been in the past to give legitimate encouragement to Indian industry? That was a subject which engaged the attention of the present Government of India at an early period, and when we came to look round and consider what was the source from which stores were derived, where they were purchased, and how they came into our hands, we were led to believe that sufficient efforts had not been made to procure in India itself many of those stores which, with some inquiry and with some trouble, might be purchased here as cheaply and in as good quality as they could be brought from Europe. (*Applause.*) Well, we thought that it was worth a good deal of trouble to ascertain what could be done in that direction, and we have for the last two years steadily devoted our attention to that subject. I dare say many gentlemen may have been sometimes amused

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by the frequent resolutions which have appeared in the Government Gazette, very often with the signature of my excellent friend opposite, Mr. Barbour, pointing out what stores might with propriety be procured in this country. There were doubtless a lot of very small things, as it may appear, included in those lists; but yet I doubt whether, if there are any gentlemen here who are interested in the particular trades to which those lists were applicable, they object to have found that the Government had turned their attention even to these, as some persons may think, insignificant objects; and were paying real, earnest, and minute attention to discover how they might in this manner legitimately encourage all the different branches of trade and industry in the country. (*Loud applause.*) And, gentlemen, there has been in some quarters a good deal of misconception with respect to our views and intentions upon this matter. I was reading, a few weeks ago, an article in that very excellent newspaper the London *Economist*, in which the Government of India were taken to task because it was supposed that they were pursuing an unwise policy in endeavouring to purchase things in India, dearer in price and inferior in quality to those which might be procured from England or from Europe. Now that is an entire misrepresentation of the course which the Government have been pursuing. In that article the writer said, "There is no reason why the Government should carry its custom abroad if it can be served as well at home, and many reasons why it should not." That brief sentence accurately represents the course which the Government has pursued in this matter. (*Applause.*) We have never thought of purchasing things in this country which could be procured cheaper elsewhere, nor of purchasing articles of inferior quality to those which could otherwise have been obtained. We should not have been justified in doing so; we should have thus been casting an unnecessary burden upon the tax-payers of this country. What we have done, and what

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we intend to continue to do, is this: We intend to search carefully in order that we may see what are the things that can be produced for our use here as cheap and as good as we can get them elsewhere; and if they are of that character, then we think it our duty and our right to give the preference to Indian productions. (*Loud applause.*) That course I hold, gentlemen, to be perfectly consistent with sound economic principles; it is one which the Government have entered upon deliberately, and which they intend to continue to pursue, and in the pursuit of which they are most anxious to spare themselves no trouble in order to make known their wants to those who can supply them, in order to ascertain, by every means open to them, whether there are traders or manufacturers in the country who can meet the requirements of the Government with regard to goods of which they are the purchasers; and they are quite prepared, and most desirous, that all their arrangements with respect to the purchase of articles of this kind should be those which are most convenient to the persons engaged in the trade, and most calculated to afford the facilities to them for coming forward and offering those supplies in any department in which the Government may require them. (*Applause.*)

Then again, gentlemen, there is another direction in which the Government can do something to promote private trade and enterprise in this country,—at least, in which it can abstain from doing that which would be injurious to private trade and private enterprise,—and that is, the Government can do its best as far as possible to abstain from entering into any kind of competition with the private trader (*hear, hear, and applause*)—a competition which, with the vast resources and practically unlimited capital at the command of Government, must be ruinous to private trade. (*Hear, hear.*) We have taken some steps in this direction already, and one of them has been embodied in a resolution which was issued a short time ago with respect to jail manufactures. But, gentlemen, when I mention that topic,

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I remember that it is one upon which considerable difference of opinion exists; and, under these circumstances, I will not dilate upon it now, because it would be altogether inconsistent with the courtesy and good feeling which ought to distinguish a meeting of this description, if I were to touch even for a moment upon any controversial question or to make allusion to any matter upon which difference of opinion exists, or which could in the smallest degree mar the harmony of this friendly gathering. (*Applause.*) I will therefore pass away from that question, merely repeating that it is the earnest desire of the Government of India to abstain in every way from interfering injuriously, by any of its acts, with the utmost possible development of private enterprise and the most fruitful employment of private capital in this great country. (*Applause.*)

I will not, gentlemen, detain you longer. There is a long list of toasts before us, and there are many others whom you will desire to hear. It is sufficient for me, in conclusion, heartily to wish every possible success to the Calcutta Trades Association. (*Loud and continued applause.*) I attach great importance to associations of this description, to Chambers of Commerce, to Trades Associations, and to other bodies of a similar character. I believe that they are calculated to confer many benefits upon their members, upon the trades and industries which they represent, and also upon the Government. We have on more occasions than one derived great advantage from the representations made to us by the Calcutta Trades Association. I trust that there will always exist between that Association and the Government of India the utmost harmony and friendship. The existence of such relations will often enable the Government to explain the meaning of the measures which it may take, and to remove misapprehensions which may exist in the public mind; while on the other hand, by consulting associations such as this, and by freely listening to the opinions which they may express, this or any other

Distribution of Prizes, Sridhar-Bansidhar School.

Government will be saved from falling into many a mistake. (*Hear, hear.*) Therefore, gentlemen, I look upon this Association and other similar bodies as highly useful institutions. I am rejoiced to have been able to be present on this occasion, and I thank you again for the cordial welcome which you have given to me.

[His Excellency resumed his seat amid loud and prolonged applause. A number of other toasts were then proposed and replied to, and Lord Ripon left the Hall about 1 A.M.]

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE SRIDHAR-BANSIDHAR SCHOOL, NAWABGUNGE.

10th Feb. 1883. [ON Saturday afternoon, the 10th February, Lord Ripon distributed the prizes to the pupils of the Sridhar-Bansidhar School, Nawabgunge, situated about two miles from Barrackpore. The institution was founded in April 1880 by Babus Sridhar Mandal and Bansidhar Mandal (who contributed Rs. 18,000 for the erection of a building and Rs. 15,000 for the maintenance of the school), to meet the educational wants of the people of Nawabgunge and the adjacent neighbourhood, and who continue to take an active interest in its maintenance and progress. The number of scholars on the rolls during the year was 243, the average daily attendance being 166. The school consists of nine classes, of which the first five are Anglo-Sanscrit, the next three Anglo-Vernacular, and the last and lowest purely Vernacular. The pupils, from the 6th class downwards, are taught all subjects, except English, through the medium of the vernacular. The school teaches up to the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University. A number of ladies and gentlemen, European and Native, went down from Calcutta to witness the proceedings, special accommodation having been provided for their conveyance by rail and by road; these, with a number of visitors from Barrackpore, formed a considerable assembly, and, by the time His Excellency arrived at the school, every portion of the large hall in which the ceremony was held was occupied. The approach to the school, for nearly half a mile, was decorated on both sides with flags and greenery, and overhung with banners bearing appropriate inscriptions, while a large triumphal arch was erected at the entrance. The school-room itself was tastefully decorated with evergreens, flags, mirrors, and pictures, and the band of the 4th N. I. played a selection of music during the afternoon. Lord Ripon, accompanied by Mr. H. W. Primrose and Captain Harbord, A. D. C., arrived shortly

Distribution of Prizes, Sridhar-Bansidhar School.

after 5 o'clock, the boys from an adjoining room chanting the National Anthem in Bengali as His Excellency took his seat on the dais at the head of the room. The Secretary, Mr. Audoeto Charan Mandal, having read the second annual report, a competition for a gold and two silver medals for recitation took place. The recitations were very good, and His Excellency found some difficulty in awarding the gold medal. The prizes were afterwards distributed, and the Viceroy addressed the assembly as follows :—]

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I must say that I rise on this occasion with an unusual amount of trepidation. I thought that I was coming to this school rather in the position of a country gentleman who visits a village school in his neighbourhood and distributes the prizes, than in that of a public character. When I entered this room, I found myself in the presence of a most formidable assembly. My eye first fell upon my honourable and learned friend the Legal Member of Council, and by his side I saw a yet more formidable individual, the President of the Education Commission, and then, which was more alarming still, I observed in a corner of the room the representatives of the Calcutta Press. (*Laughter.*) This, I must say, took me altogether aback, and instead of this being, as I expected, a quiet gathering in a country school, I find Members of Council, representatives of the Press, of the Foreign Office, and other public departments, assembled here to meet me; and then, beyond that, I have been called upon to discharge one of the most difficult duties which can by any possibility fall to the charge of any man, namely, to pronounce upon the respective and relative merits of youths who, all of them, performed their part so well as those who have recited before us this afternoon. However, I must do my best. If I had known the audience I was about to address, I should, of course, have sat up last night and burnt a large number of candles in preparing an elaborate oration (*laughter*); but, if I am to speak the truth, I did nothing of the kind; I went quietly to bed in perfect innocence of what was to come. (*Laughter.*)

Distribution of Prizes, Sridhar-Bansidhar School.

I have been speaking now for between thirty and forty years upon the subject of education, and I suspect my audiences are nearly as tired of hearing me on that subject as I am of speaking about it; and, therefore, I hope that on this occasion you will excuse me if I do not come up to your expectations. I can only say that I will do my best. I will not now trouble you with those—shall I say, commonplaces?—on the subject of education which we hear (happily, as I think) in these days throughout the length and breadth, not of Europe only, but also of India; but it seems to me that there is a feature connected with this school which is one so interesting and so important that it will suffice for the few observations which I desire to address to you on this occasion. The circumstances under which this school has been founded afford me, I must say, the highest gratification. I find here two gentlemen, Babus Sridhar Mandal and Bansidhar Mandal, who have come forward to supply at their own cost the wants of this neighbourhood. It appears to have struck them that the people of Nawabgunge were in need of a school. What did they do? They did not go to the Government and beg for a large amount of funds out of the public money, with which that school might be erected; but they came forward with a generosity and public spirit which does them the highest honour. They said, “We will do this for our friends and neighbours; we will found this school, and establish it among them, that it may be for the lasting benefit of those among whom we ourselves have dwelt.” (*Cheers.*) Now, I can truly say that I derive the very greatest possible pleasure from seeing two native gentlemen taking this course. I feel, as is well known, the deepest interest in the question of education, and I desire to see education in all its branches spread more widely throughout the land in India. But we all know that education cannot be supplied without funds, and no one who has attended to this subject at all can doubt that, if the education of the people of

Distribution of Prizes, Sridhar-Bansidhar School.

India were to be made complete and full, it would require an amount of money which it would alarm the boldest financier to contemplate. I find, ladies and gentlemen, that all people throughout the world have a great dislike to taxation. An English Statesman once spoke of the people of England as having what he called an ignorant impatience of taxation. (*Laughter.*) Well, I always thought that was the characteristic of my countrymen; but I must say that I do not know any people in the world who have a greater dislike of taxation than the people of India (*laughter*), and I am quite sure that if my honourable friend Major Baring were to propose to supply the educational wants of this country thoroughly and completely by the imposition of the taxation which would be required for that purpose, his popularity would very speedily disappear. Well, then, how is the thing to be done? Our revenue is inelastic; the sources from which it is derived are few. How is this great work to be accomplished? It can only be accomplished by private individuals coming forward and taking a share in it (*loud cheers*), and, therefore, it has been to me a source of great pleasure to have had this opportunity of coming here to-day, and of marking, in the clearest and most distinct manner in my power, my high appreciation of what has been done by these gentlemen in the establishment of this school. (*Cheers.*)

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I feel, and have felt ever since I first came to Barrackpore, a great interest in the other school which exists at Barrackpore. I am very fond of Barrackpore as a residence, and have always felt an interest in the school there, which has been supported by many successive Viceroys. I know that it may be said that the establishment of this school here at Nawabgunge may interfere with the attendance of the children at the Barrackpore School. Probably to some extent it has; but I am a friend to competition in education; I believe that it is a great advantage that a school established and supported

'Distribution of Prizes, Sridhar-Bansidhar School.

by the Government should have in its immediate neighbourhood another school established and founded by private liberality to enter into competition with it, and keep it up to the mark. (*Cheers.*) I am quite sure that when I say that, I do not speak only my individual opinion, but that that view of the subject will be endorsed by those distinguished gentlemen connected with the Education Department whom I see here on the present occasion. You all know the valuable effects of competition in a matter of this kind, and, although I think the day is far distant when, as my friend Mr. Croft said on the last occasion on which he visited this school, the time may come when the Education Department will be superfluous, nevertheless I think that it is a very good thing that Government schools in all parts of the country should have keen competition to encounter with schools established by private individuals. (*Cheers.*) Ladies and gentlemen, for these reasons I am very glad to have been able to come here to-day.

I find in the report just read, that it is the intention of the gentlemen who have founded this school to found also, in connection with it, a library and a scholarship with which they have done me the honour to connect my name; and when I say that they have done me the honour, I am not making use of an empty phrase. I *do* esteem it an honour to have my name connected with anything calculated to promote the spread of education in this great country, and I readily accept the proposals which these gentlemen have made. (*Cheers.*)

I have been asked also to become a patron of this institution: I shall very gladly do so, and I can truly say that it is my most sincere wish that this school, founded with so much generosity, may continue for many and many generations to confer large benefits on the children of this district, and to keep alive in the grateful memory of its inhabitants the names of the brothers Mandal. (*Loud and continued cheers.*)

UNVEILING OF LORD NAPIER OF MAGDALA'S STATUE.

[THE ceremony of unveiling the statue of Lord Napier of Magdala, 15th Feb. 1883. which has been erected on the Maidan, a short distance east of Prinsep's Ghat, was performed by the Viceroy on Thursday evening, the 15th February, in the presence of a large gathering, amongst whom were the Commander-in-Chief and his Staff, the Lieutenant-Governor and his Staff, the Members of Council, the Chief Justice, the Bishop of Calcutta, &c. The ground about the statue was ornamented for the occasion with venetian masts, entwined with leaves, and supporting lines of banners one from another. On the south side of the statue a dais, draped in red, was erected for the accommodation of His Excellency the Viceroy and others; and about the dais most of the general public present took up their places. A number of troops and volunteers lined the ground around the statue. The Viceroy arrived at 5-30 P.M., and was received with a royal salute. Behind the Viceroy's chair was a flag-staff for the royal standard, round which a detachment of the Warwickshire Regiment was formed up as a guard of honour. The standard was hoisted on His Excellency's arrival. Lord Ripon having taken his seat, the members of the Memorial Committee were presented to His Excellency by Sir Richard Garth, who opened the proceedings with the following address:—

“Your Excellency, Sir Rivers Thompson, my Lord Bishop, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is a matter of regret to me that the honour of addressing you upon this occasion has not devolved upon one more worthy than myself.

“My only claim to that honour, if claim it may be called, consists in this,—that I and my friends here, whom I have just now had the pleasure of presenting to Your Excellency, are the only remaining members in Calcutta of a Committee which was formed so long ago as the year 1876 for the purpose of erecting this statue.

“On the 26th of March in that year, a public meeting was held in the Town Hall of this city, at which it was resolved, on the motion of Sir R. Temple, ‘That the virtues and great public services of His Excellency Lord Napier of Magdala during a long and eminently distinguished career are worthy of being commemorated by a permanent memorial.’ It was further resolved that this memorial should take the form of a statue, and we, the Committee, were appointed to carry out the necessary arrangements. It is now, Sir, no small gratification to us, who are left of that Committee, that under Your Excellency's

Unveiling of Lord Napier of Magdala's Statue.

kind auspices our duties are being brought this day to what I hope will be considered a successful conclusion.

"I can only say that if it be a success, the credit will be due, not to any exertions on our part, but mainly, I need hardly say, to the pains which have been bestowed, and I ought to add, the generosity which has been shown us, by the eminent sculptor Mr. Boehm, who has been kind enough to undertake the work, as well as to the generous assistance and cordial co-operation which we have received from all quarters, both here and in England.

"We are greatly indebted, in the first place, to the Government of India for so kindly presenting us with the metal of which the statue is composed. We are extremely grateful to our friends in England (and amongst them, I hope I may be allowed to mention His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales) for the warm interest which they have shown and the trouble they have taken in making the arrangements there. I desire also to thank my honourable friend the Lieutenant-Governor for the kind and liberal aid which has been afforded us by the Government of Bengal; and last, but by no means least, I beg to thank our good friend Colonel Crookshank for the admirable manner in which he has performed that troublesome, and too often, I fear, thankless, office of Secretary to the Committee. (*Applause.*)

"And, Sir, I feel that I should be omitting a very important part of my duty on this occasion, if I failed to recognise in the most public manner a fact which I know will be a real gratification to Lord Napier himself, that amongst the numerous contributions to this statue, which have showered in upon us from all parts of India, a very large proportion has been received from the Native community and another large share from soldiers in the Army. (*Applause.*) Lord Napier, we all know, was pre-eminently the soldier's friend. He not only led him on to victory in the field, but he always endeavoured to promote his welfare in the camp and in the barrack. He devoted his energies not only to maintaining the efficiency but to promoting the health, the recreation, and the moral improvement of the Army, and I feel sure that it will be a real pleasure to him to learn how large a share the private soldier, both native and European, has had in erecting this tribute to his memory. (*Applause.*)

"Sir, I feel that in Your Excellency's presence, it is neither my place nor my privilege on this occasion to enlarge upon the virtues and achievements of the great and good man in whose honour we are here assembled; and I believe I shall be consulting the wishes of all who hear me when, without further prelude, I ask Your Excellency, on behalf of the Committee, to be kind enough to unveil this statue. (*Applause.*)

Unveiling of Lord Napier of Magdala's Statue.

His Excellency the Viceroy then rose and said :—]

Sir Richard Garth, Mr. Rivers Thompson, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Before I proceed to discharge the duty to which I have just been invited by the Chief Justice, I will, in accordance with the custom upon occasions of this description, ask your permission briefly to recall to your recollection some of the deeds which have marked the career of the eminent man in whose honour we are gathered together to-day; and yet it seems to me that it must be superfluous that I, or any man, should speak of Lord Napier's deeds and of his virtues to such a distinguished audience of the inhabitants of Calcutta; for there must be many here assembled to-day who have watched his honourable career, and who knew him well during the half century in which he devoted himself to the service of India; but still we are always glad to hear something of the actions of our friends, and therefore, I am sure that you will not think that I am needlessly occupying your time if, for a brief space, I mention some of the chief characteristics of Lord Napier's life.

It is now, ladies and gentlemen, fifty-five years since Lord Napier entered the Bengal Engineers, and I believe that, not far short of the first twenty years of his career, he was engaged in the useful, though perhaps not brilliant, duties which attach to civil engineering employment in the lower ranks in this country; but we have plenty of evidence of the skill and the zeal with which he devoted himself to the discharge of those duties, and I am told that those who visit Darjeeling may yet see—in the excellent roads which, I understand, distinguish that station—the result of Lord Napier's labours. Somewhere about 1844 he was selected by the far-seeing eye of Lord Ellenborough to be sent on special duty to Umballa. While he was engaged in laying out the cantonments which now exist at that station, sounds of war reached his ears, and his martial spirit was roused by the tramp of troops advancing to the first Sikh war. He saw

Unveiling of Lord Napier of Magdala's Statue.

that his opportunity was come, and if a little bird that has spoken to me has not told me an untruth, and has only let out an open secret, I believe that on that occasion, without asking leave of anybody, Lord Napier jumped on his horse and galloped to the field of Moodkee. (*Applause.*) He came just in time to take a distinguished part in that bloody field and to bear his full share in the yet harder contest which followed at Ferozshah. He was present at the victory of Sobraon, which closed the first Sikh war; but, as you all know, that war did not bring our difficulties with the Sikh nation to an end, for a few years afterwards hostilities again broke out. In the siege of Mooltan Lord Napier took a highly distinguished part, and had a principal hand, as history tells us, in advising the plan of the attack which was made upon that fortress. When the battle of Goojerat ended that war, Lord Napier was called upon to take his share, as an officer of the Punjab Government, which was then constituted under Sir Henry Lawrence, and he was a fellow-labourer with Henry and John Lawrence in the great work of ruling the Sikh nation and of making them, as they now are, though the latest conquered, one of the most contented provinces of India. (*Applause.*) And he had no small part in that work, because he, by his labours as an Engineer, by that great Bari Doab Canal which he constructed, and by other works, did as much as any man among the great Punjab Administrators to confer large benefits upon the people of that province. (*Applause.*) There was another work in the Punjab which was a great one in its day—the Grand Trunk Road from Lahore to Peshawar, constructed under Lord Napier's superintendence. It is true that that work now may be regarded as insignificant by the side of the yet greater engineering triumphs which have made the railway to the fortress of Peshawar, and which have spanned the Indus by the great Attock bridge, but, in its day, that work was one of the highest utility to the defence and development of the Punjab. Time went

Unveiling of Lord Napier of Magdala's Statue.

on and the Government of India, watching the career of this distinguished Engineer, thought that they could not do better than call him down to Calcutta to take over a not unimportant position in the Engineering Department here. Hardly had he come, when the great and terrible conflict of the mutiny commenced; and when he was selected by Lord Canning to bear a great part in that contest. He served as Chief of the Staff to the gallant Outram at the relief of Lucknow, and he was associated with Sir Colin Campbell as his Chief Engineer; afterwards he was one among the foremost of those who led that wondrous chase, going on from day to day and week to week, which ended at last in the capture of the great rebel Tantia Topee; and foremost among the foremost was Robert Napier. (*Applause.*) When the mutiny was over, he was not allowed to rest, but was sent forth after a short interval to bear a great part in the China war, which broke out shortly after the mutiny was brought to a conclusion. Returning to India, I have heard it said, so modest was his own estimation of his great powers, that there was a moment when he contemplated retiring from the service; but the Government that he served knew him better, and they put him into the Council of the Governor-General as Military Member, where he discharged his duties with that zeal and energy, and with that devotion to the interests of the army, which were his most marked characteristics.

From the Council of the Governor General, he went to be Commander-in-Chief in Bombay, and in that capacity he was selected to lead forth the expedition which was sent to Abyssinia. He there led our troops over successive ranges of lofty mountains, to the assault of a position believed by those who held it to be impregnable, and which fell, almost as the walls of Jericho fell before the Israelites, at the very sight of Lord Napier's army. (*Applause.*) Then, covered with the honours that he had won in this long and distinguished career, he returned once more to

Unveiling of Lord Napier of Magdala's Statue.

India to fill the great office of Commander-in-Chief. While he held it, he was not called upon to take part in a great war, or to conduct any military operation; but he won for himself that title—to my mind more honourable than that of victor—to which Sir Richard Garth has alluded, for he was called the soldier's friend. (*Applause.*) And I believe that none will contradict me when I say that, distinguished and eminent as were the men who filled the office of Commander-in-Chief in India before Lord Napier, none of them so truly fulfilled the character of the soldier's friend as he did,—the friend, mind you, of European and Native soldier alike (*applause*), for he knew the Native army well, and loved it; he knew the British soldier well, and cared for him; he cared alike for their welfare, for their health, and for their amusement, and he took care to provide for them in all these respects.

Such, then, ladies and gentlemen, was Lord Napier's career. The time came when he left the shores of the country that for nearly half a century he had served with so much zeal; and he still received further marks of his Sovereign's favour, for, as we all know, he has until the last few months been employed in the command of England's greatest fortress. (*Applause.*)

Now, ladies and gentlemen, such is a brief and very unworthy account of a noble life. What is the key to the deeds that have been accomplished and to the qualities that have been displayed? The Poet Laureate has said,—

Not once or twice in our rough island story
The path of duty was the way to glory.

(*Applause.*)

It seems to me that in those two lines, written with the pen of Genius, is described the chief characteristic of the British soldier.

The soldiers of other nations may be as brave as ours; they may have won for their respective countries victories

Unveiling of Lord Napier of Magdala's Statue.

as brilliant as any that are inscribed on British banners ; but they seem to me, generally speaking, to have made the aim of their efforts the attainment of glory ; to have "sought the bubble reputation at the cannon's mouth." With the soldiers of England it has been otherwise : for the end of their efforts has been to do their duty (*applause*) ; they have not even sought their country's glory, in the vulgar sense of the term ; they have sought to do their duty that England might be able to do hers (*applause*) ; and in that, if I am not greatly mistaken, lies the true secret of the almost unvarying success which has attended the British arms. Now, ladies and gentlemen, surely if ever there was any man who laboured in that spirit in the discharge of his duties, that man was Robert Cornelius, Lord Napier. (*Applause.*) Brave among the bravest,—foremost in the hour of danger,—firm and enduring in the weary march and in the hot pursuit, he was in times of peace the gentlest among the gentle, and he has borne with a singular modesty the many honours and well-earned distinctions which have been showered upon him by his grateful Sovereign, and of which the last has made him the first Field Marshal who ever rose from the ranks of the Indian Army. (*Applause.*) He never regarded his soldiers as instruments to his own advancement. He cared for them and watched over them in times of peace with the same zeal and earnestness and vigour as those with which he led them to victory in war. He loved European and Native alike, and therefore by Native and European alike he was loved. (*Applause.*) Surely, then, it is right that we should do honour to such a man—that we should hold up his bright career for the imitation of all the members of his noble profession ; and it seems, therefore, to me to be eminently fitting that the statue of Lord Napier should take its place beside those of Hardinge, of Lawrence, of Canning and of Outram,—of the chiefs whom he served so well, and of the friends by whom he was so loved. (*Applause.*)

Distribution of Prizes, Barrackpore School.

[The cloth enveloping the statue was then removed by a squad of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and, as the statue stood revealed, the guns in the Fort boomed forth, the troops gave a general salute due to a Field Marshal—that is, the regimental colours were drooped, arms presented, and bands played a march. His Excellency the Viceroy, having examined the statue of Lord Napier, then drove off under the escort of the Body-Guard, the troops giving a royal salute. The proceedings having thus terminated, the troops were ordered back to quarters, and the large gathering gradually dispersed.]

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES TO THE PUPILS OF
THE BARRACKPORE SCHOOL.

17th Feb. 1883. [ON Saturday afternoon, the 17th February, the Viceroy distributed the prizes to the pupils of the Barrackpore School. The proceedings took place close to Government House, on the lawn, the boys being seated on two long rows of benches placed opposite each other. His Excellency was accompanied by the Marchioness of Ripon, Mr. H. W. Primrose, and Captain Harbord, A. D. C.

At the conclusion of the reading of the annual report by the Head Master, a recitation from Shakespeare was given by two of the boys. It showed a marked improvement on previous similar recitations, both as to manner of delivery and pronunciation, and the boys, much to their gratification, subsequently received a prize each from Their Excellencies for their efficiency. The distribution of prizes then took place, after which His Excellency addressed the boys as follows:—]

My young Friends,—I am very glad to welcome you once more to this park, and to see you again assembled here. I heard with great pleasure the recitations which have just taken place, in which the boys who took part in them fully sustained the character which the representatives of this school attained in that respect last year. I have listened with great attention to the report which was read at the commencement of these proceedings; and, though I regret to find that the students from this school have not been so successful on a late occasion at the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University as

Distribution of Prizes, Barrackpore School.

they had been previously, yet I am quite ready to accept the explanation which has been offered by your head master for your failure at the present time, in the earnest hope that you will use every endeavour to retrieve the reputation of this school upon a future occasion. I can assure you that I shall watch the matter with very great attention, for I feel a strong interest in this school, as all my predecessors in the office of Governor General of India have always done. I enjoy my visits to Barrackpore very much, and, from the first time I came here, I learned to feel a strong interest in the prosperity and advancement of this institution. The circumstances which have attended the Entrance Examination this year have led me to think that it is desirable that I should make some alteration in the character of the prizes which I have hitherto offered to the students of this institution. I think that, on the first occasion when I met you here, I said that I should very likely change the subjects for which these prizes were given from time to time, and what I propose to do now is this: Instead of the two books which have been offered for prizes in particular subjects this year and last year, I intend next year to offer a prize of Rs. 100 to the student who takes the best position in the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta University; and I earnestly trust that all of you, my young friends, who are sufficiently advanced to take part in that examination will do your utmost to win the prize.

In the report, allusion has been made to the school which has recently been established at Nawabgunge. I am not surprised to learn that the establishment of that school in this immediate neighbourhood has diminished the number of students attending at the Barrackpore School. That was natural, and to be expected. But I am very glad to find that your master is not inclined to view with undue jealousy the establishment of that institution, which is calculated undoubtedly to confer many benefits upon the

Distribution of Prizes, Barrackpore School.

people who dwell at Nawabgunge itself ; and I trust that the friendly rivalry which will exist between that school and this school will ultimately tend to the mutual advantage of both. You should recollect, my young friends, that this Barrackpore School has a great advantage (at all events, in one respect) over the school at Nawabgunge,—in that it has been established many years, and that it has something of a history. This school has been in close connection with a long series of Viceroys and Governors General of India, and it behoves you, who belong to an institution which is comparatively old as an educational institution in this country, to do your utmost to uphold its reputation, and, by devoting yourselves zealously to your studies, to take care that it does not fall in the smallest degree into disrepute. (*Cheers.*)

Now, I do not know that I could employ any better means of inciting you to take the utmost advantage of the benefits which this institution is calculated to confer upon you if you make the best use of the instruction which is here offered to you, than by briefly alluding to the life of one who was, now many years ago, a student in the Barrackpore School. The student whose example I desire to set before you on this occasion is the late Dr. Bolanath Bose. His family lived in the neighbourhood of Barrackpore, but his father died when he was still very young, and left his mother with young children in a state of much distress. Young Bolanath had therefore only to rely upon his own abilities and his own energy ; but he had one great advantage when he was about eight or ten years old,—this Barrackpore School was established in the neighbourhood of the residence of his family, and he was at once sent there, and he made the best use in his power of the advantages of the institution. At an early period of his career as a scholar he attracted the attention of Lord Auckland, who was at that time Governor General

Distribution of Prizes, Barrackpore School.

of India ; and that nobleman followed his career with very great interest for many years. When his time of schooling in the Barrackpore School came to an end, Lord Auckland testified the interest that he felt in him by taking measures to enable him to attend the Calcutta Medical College ; and I understand that while he used to spend his weeks in Calcutta, he was in the habit of walking back to Barrackpore every Saturday to see his family, and of returning to Calcutta on foot the following Monday. Well, he made good use of his time at the Calcutta Medical College, and at last, by the generosity of the late Baboo Dwarkanath Tagore and other gentlemen, he and three companions, I think, were enabled to undertake what was then regarded as the perilous journey to England, in order that he might have the advantage of studying in the medical institutions there. In the course of that study he won many a prize, and, if I mistake not, he was the first native of India who took the degree of Doctor of Medicine in the University of London.

While in England he enjoyed still the favour of Lord Auckland and of other gentlemen who had felt an interest in him in his own country, and efforts were made to get him admitted to the regular Indian Medical Service ; but unfortunately that Service was not then open, as it now is, to the natives of this country, and those efforts failed ; but Dr. Bolanath Bose returned to India with a strong recommendation in his favour to the Government, from his friends in England. He was immediately employed in his profession by the Indian Government, and filled many important medical offices during his long career, both in time of peace and in time of war ; for he was present in the second Sikh campaign, and received, I think, a medal for the battle of Chillianwala. A few years ago he retired from the service upon pension, and he died in the course of last year.

Now, my young friends, that is a short history of one who began life as a young boy in the Barrackpore School,

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—just as any of the younger boys I see before me should begin their tuition now—and you see to what a position he attained ; you see what honours he won in the fair and open competition of the London University ; and you see what a career he made for himself. Well, I do not say that everybody in the Barrackpore School has the abilities which marked the career of Dr. Bolanath Bose ; but this I do say,—that if you will each of you set his example before you ; if you will each of you devote yourself to the studies in which you are now engaged, with the energy with which he attended to his studies when he was a schoolboy, although you may not attain to all the distinctions which he won for himself, nevertheless you have within your reach ample means in this institution for winning for yourselves a good position in life. Remember that he had no advantages of wealth—he was, as his story tells us, a very poor boy ; it was entirely by his own exertions and his own efforts that he attained to the positions which I have described to you ; and the best advice, my young friends, that I can give you, in the interests of this school and your own interests, is, go and do likewise. (*Cheers*)

[The boys then adjourned to another portion of the grounds, where, provided by Their Excellencies, they found a sumptuous repast of Hindoo sweetmeats, served up in true orthodox style, awaiting them.]

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BENGAL TENANCY BILL.

[In the Legislative Council held on the 2nd March, the Hon. Mr. 2nd March 1883. Ilbert introduced a Bill to amend and consolidate certain enactments relating to the Law of Landlord and Tenant within the territories under the administration of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. Mr. Ilbert delivered an exhaustive statement on the subject of the Bill which occupied nearly three hours. He pointed out at great length the necessity for the measure, reviewed the whole history of past legislation on the subject, and explained in detail the principles of the Bill. At the conclusion of his speech, His Excellency made the following remarks :—]

I believe it will be in accordance with the general understanding, and I think it will be the best course which I can suggest to my honourable colleague for the Council to pursue, that after the very able statement of my honourable and learned friend no discussion should take place upon this question at present, because it is obvious that in a matter of this magnitude members of Council would naturally desire to have time to consider that statement, and the Bill with which it is connected, and therefore what I would propose is this—that we should, when the motions now before the Council with regard to this measure have been passed, take the further consideration of it on Monday, the 12th, and, if it should be necessary to adjourn the debate, on Tuesday, the 13th of this month. The delay till Monday will give sufficient time, considering how fully the Bill has been discussed, and how long the matter has been before the public, to enable us to take the further discussion of this Bill on that day, it being clearly understood that no other steps will be taken upon it now, so that the public will have ample time—some eight months—to consider the whole question and make all representations to the Government before the Bill goes before a Select Committee.

The only other remark which I would desire to make is this. The Government propose to give to members of

Distribution of Prizes to the Calcutta Volunteers.

Council, and to the public at once, all the papers connected with this case. As a rule, the Secretary of State objects to the publication in India of despatches to and from himself, but I have obtained Lord Kimberley's permission in this case, regarding it as one of exceptional importance, to publish at once, and without waiting for their being published in England, the despatches which have passed between the Government of India and the Secretary of State on this question ; so that the papers which will now be given to the public will be full and complete.

If my honourable colleagues accept the proposal which I have made, no further discussion will take place now. The Bill will be published, and we will take up the question again on Monday, the 12th of March.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES TO THE CALCUTTA
VOLUNTEERS.

31d March 1883. [ON Saturday afternoon, the 3rd March, Her Excellency Lady Ripon distributed the prizes to the Calcutta Volunteers on the grounds of the Calcutta Cricket Club. The muster was a large one, numbering more than five hundred men, while the number of spectators present was unusually large. Their Excellencies arrived at half-past 5 o'clock, and after receiving and returning the salute of the Volunteers, the Viceroy walked down the line with Major Hutchison and inspected the corps. When the inspection was over, His Excellency returned to the centre of the line, and standing a little in advance of the audience, addressed the Volunteers as follows :—]

Major Hutchison, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Members of the Calcutta Volunteers,—I am very glad to have an opportunity of meeting you once more, and to be able on this, as on previous occasions—and even perhaps to a greater degree than on previous occasions—to offer to you my congratulations upon the position and progress of this corps. You have largely increased in numbers since we met twelve months ago, and two new companies

Distribution of Prizes to the Calcutta Volunteers.

have been added to your strength from the members of the Secretariat of the Bengal Government. I also rejoice to learn that the shooting of this year has shown a marked improvement upon that of the previous twelve months—good as that shooting was; and I am very glad to be able to congratulate Sergeant Spooner on having retained the pre-eminence which he won last year, and on having once more carried off the prize given by myself. I only hope that he does not mean always to monopolise the winning of that prize.

The Mounted Company has increased in a marked degree, not only in its numbers, which have doubled, but also in its efficiency, which is, I am informed, this year 50 per cent. better than it was last year; and I rejoice at this especially, because it shows that I was not wrong when I ventured to say twelve months ago that, although the task which the Mounted Company had undertaken was a more difficult task than that which fell to the lot of the infantry, nevertheless, I was quite sure that by their exertions they would take care that the general standard and character of the corps did not suffer in their hands. That prophecy, I am pleased to think, has turned out to be correct. Major Hutchison, I owe the knowledge of these facts to your kindness, and to the information which you have placed in my hands. But I am able to appeal in regard to the efficiency of this corps to other testimony of a completely independent character; and I am very glad indeed to say that I have learned from General Hughes that he was greatly pleased at the improvement he observed in the corps at their inspection the other day, and with the hearty zeal and interest which was felt by officers and men alike in the duties to which they have devoted themselves. It is to me very gratifying to observe the strength in which this corps has mustered to-day, for I see in it a proof of the progress of its numbers, and of the devotion of its members to the duties which they have

Distribution of Prizes to the Calcutta Volunteers.

undertaken. I was somewhat sorry to find that, during the last twelve months, this corps was unable to avail itself of the means which were placed at their disposal by the Government with a view to their going for a few days into a camp of exercise. I can very well understand the difficulties that might come in the way of carrying out a project of that kind ; at the same time I must say now, as I said last year, that I believe even a day or two in camp is a very excellent training for any volunteer corps, and that it gives them an amount of experience which cannot be otherwise obtained. But you have here in Calcutta a great advantage—an advantage which makes up to no inconsiderable extent for an occasional want of the benefits of a camp—in being able to drill from time to time with Her Majesty's regular troops. I am glad to hear that you have availed yourselves of that advantage largely, and I am quite sure that all of you will have found the benefits which are to be derived from taking your place side by side with Her Majesty's regular forces. They no doubt must be your model. We volunteers are not conceited enough to suppose that with the limited opportunities at our disposal we can attain to their efficiency or to their skill ; but, at least, they are an example which every volunteer can set before him ; they are the model on which volunteer corps should be formed ; for, after all, they and you obey the same gracious Sovereign ; they and you are equally engaged in her service and form part of her military forces.

One of the principal circumstances of the past year in connection with this corps has been the absence of your commanding officer, my friend Colonel Graham. When he went on leave, it became my duty to consider whom I should select to officiate in his absence, and, after turning the matter over very carefully, I came to the conclusion that the best choice I could make in the interests of the corps was to offer the post of commandant to Major Hutchison ; and it is a great pleasure to me to know from sub-

Distribution of Prizes to the Calcutta Volunteers.

sequent circumstances that you yourselves appreciate the justice of that choice, and that you have found the benefits which have resulted from his command. I know this, because some months ago, when a new Regulation, issued by the Horse Guards at home, would have suddenly removed Major Hutchison from the command of this corps, you gave me to understand how much you felt that it was for your interest that he should remain with you, at all events for a time. I knew that the Regulation being a general one, there was little chance of any exception being made to it upon a general representation from the Government; but I took the course of making, as your Honorary Colonel, a personal appeal to the Commander-in-Chief at home, and His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge most gladly and willingly listened to that appeal and readily gave his consent to waive the Regulation in this case, so far as to allow Major Hutchison to remain with you until the termination of the present drill season. Well, we have seen in the results attained, and the good report which the General has just given of you, the fruits of Major Hutchison's labours, and it will be a pleasure to me to have the opportunity of assuring the Duke of Cambridge that his kindness in this matter has not been thrown away. But, alas! gentlemen, that kindness was only able to keep Major Hutchison with you until the conclusion of the present drill season. That period is close at hand; and as Colonel Graham will not return to you for another year, I again have the duty of selecting an officiating commandant. I can assure you that, in making that choice, I shall endeavour to find an officer well qualified for that important post, and worthy of this gallant corps. I shall take counsel with my friend Major Hutchison in the matter, and I have no doubt that in a short time I shall be able to select some one who will not be unworthy to succeed those who have hitherto filled the office of Commanding Officer.

Distribution of Prizes to the Calcutta Volunteers.

This is the third occasion upon which I have had the pleasure of meeting you since at your request I have worn this uniform. On the first occasion I impressed upon you the great importance of drill. Last year I urged you to devote yourselves with zeal to your duties, and to remember that they were real and substantial duties, and not matters of show and parade. This year I have no need to repeat that advice, because the progress which you have made during the last twelve months proves that no such advice is needed from me or from any man. You have shown that you are determined to go on from year to year, not merely maintaining, but advancing the character of this corps; and by so doing you maintain the place which you ought to hold among the honourable roll of the Queen's Volunteers, and you make the wearing of your uniform a proud distinction for any man.

Major Hutchison, I am confident that this excellent corps will, in the future as in the past, uphold the reputation which it has obtained, and that it will prove itself worthy of its position, by its discipline, by its drill, by its success in shooting, and, above all, by its loyal devotion to our gracious Sovereign.

[The prizes were then distributed by the Marchioness of Ripon.]

VISIT TO HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "EURYALUS."

[ON Wednesday afternoon, the 7th March, the Viceroy visited Her 7th March 1883. Majesty's Ship *Euryalus*. His Excellency was received on board by Rear-Admiral Sir William Hewett, Captain Hastings, and a large number of ladies and gentlemen who had been invited for the occasion, amongst whom were His Excellency Sir Donald Stewart, Commander-in-Chief in India; the Hon. Rivers Thompson, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal; Mrs. and Miss Thompson; His Excellency Sir Frederick Roberts, Commander-in-Chief of Madras, and Mrs. Roberts; Lord and Lady Charles Beresford, Lady Elizabeth Clough Taylor, Colonel Pretyma, and others. On His Excellency's arrival the yards were manned, and a guard of honour of marines was drawn up on the quarter-deck. The weather was very unfavourable, and heavy rain fell during His Excellency's visit. After the crew had been put through some broadside exercise on the gun deck and the Viceroy had inspected the ship, Sir William Hewett conducted His Excellency to the poop, where the officers and men were assembled, and addressing His Excellency spoke as follows:—

My Lord Marquis,—I have to thank Your Lordship for the honour Your Lordship has paid the East Indies Squadron by coming on board the *Euryalus* to-day, and in the name of the Captains, officers, and crews of the ship, I beg leave to present Your Lordship with this gun which Captain Hastings took at Chalouf with a party of seamen and marines, and two companies of the Seaforth Highlanders. I trust Your Lordship will accept it as a memento of the Egyptian Campaign of 1882, in which British sailors and soldiers fought side by side with the native troops of India for the honour of the Queen-Empress.

His Excellency replied as follows:—]

Sir William Hewett,—I thank you very much for presenting me with this memorial of an action which, though it was not one of great magnitude, afforded an opportunity for the display of those qualities of courage, of firmness, and of dash, which distinguish British soldiers and sailors, and I shall always preserve this little gun as a memento of the deeds which have been done in the late campaign; but I have not only to thank you, Sir, for this present which will form a valuable portion of my family, and, as I trust, of my hereditary possessions, but still more for the most invaluable

Visit to Her Majesty's Ship "Euryalus."

able and untiring assistance which you gave to the troops that were sent from India to take part in the late operations in Egypt. I can assure you that the Government of India will ever feel deeply grateful for the cordial aid which you rendered to them and to their officers, without which that Expedition could not have been so speedily and readily disembarked, and could not have won for itself those commendations which it has received from the hands of all who witnessed that disembarkation. And I must avail myself, with your permission, of this opportunity not only to thank you, Sir, the Admiral of this Squadron, but also your officers and seamen and marines, for the aid which they too gave to that Expedition. Even your zeal and energy, Sir, would not have been sufficient to have accomplished that which was done so speedily and effectively on that occasion, if you had not been heartily seconded by every officer and every man under your command. It is not, however, only on account of the help which was thus readily given to the Expedition from India, that I rejoice to have this opportunity of meeting for a few moments those whom I may take as the representatives of the Indian Squadron. I rejoice also because it enables me to recognise the other services which those seamen rendered upon that occasion to their Queen and country.

I recollect how speedily and skilfully they secured the safety of the canal, how they protected that great waterway of all nations from the danger of interruption throughout the military operations; and I recollect still more that smart and gallant operation by which you, Sir, seized the town of Suez in the face of an almost overwhelming force with that vigour and boldness which always distinguish British sailors. I shall always be proud to feel that I had some little hand in the success of that operation, because when you contemplated the sudden occupation of Suez, you asked me to aid you in obtaining permission from the

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Government at home to undertake that operation. I was most happy to do so. I knew that it was a somewhat risky undertaking; I knew that you might be opposed by a large force the exact strength of which you did not know, but I had confidence in you that you would not undertake anything which you felt you could not accomplish; and I had confidence, too, that those under you would be able to accomplish anything which you undertook. Therefore it was to me a great pleasure to second your efforts so far as it was in my power to do so. But it was not only in these ways that valuable services were rendered by the men under your command in the late operations. They had another task to perform much more trying, and, to English sailors, much more disagreeable than that of facing any number of foes in battle. They had the hard and trying work of disembarking stores and of aiding in the landing of troops, of patrolling the canal through long weary weeks with no hope in the minds of most of them that any of them would have the advantage of going to the front and meeting their enemy face to face; and I think that services of that kind—trying in their nature and wearying to gallant men—require as much commendation as the most gallant performances under fire.

But, Sir, the British Navy, though not represented in great strength in the Egyptian operations, was represented there by one gallant man whose name will always be recorded when the story of Tel-el-Kebir is told; for, gentlemen, there are few instances of bravery and devotion more touching than that which is told us in the story of Lieutenant Rawson, who, when he had conducted the troops to the front of the enemy's position by the light of a star, and had fallen beneath the fire of the foe, turned to his General and with his dying voice said, "Did I not lead you straight?"

Sir, I am glad to have had this opportunity of welcoming to Calcutta the representatives of the Indian Squadron.

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The services that that Squadron renders in ordinary times may win for them little reputation and may be little seen by others, but I can assure you that they are highly appreciated by the Government of India.

We know that service on the Indian station is in many respects peculiarly trying—indeed, I believe it may be said to be one of the most trying stations of the British Navy ; and we know, also, that should the hour of danger come and should we have to make a call on you, you would be ever ready to answer.

Sir William Hewitt,—I rejoice to have had this opportunity of meeting you, your officers and your men, and I shall always cherish that gun as a memorial of the services of the Indian Squadron in the Egyptian War and of the pleasant visit paid to your ship this afternoon.

[His Excellency and party then returned on shore, under a salute of 31 guns from the *Euryalus*.

The following is the inscription on the gun presented to His Excellency :—

Captured on the 20th of August 1882 at Chalouf, on the west bank of the Suez Canal, twelve miles from Suez, by landing parties of seamen and marines from Her Majesty's Ships *Euryalus*, *Seagull*, and *Mosquito*, and two companies of the second battalion of the Scaforth Highlanders ; and presented to His Excellency the Most Honourable the Marquis of Ripon, K.G., G.M.S.I., C.I.E., Viceroy and Governor General of India, by Rear-Admiral Sir William N. W. Hewett, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., V.C., Commander-in-Chief of Her Majesty's Naval Forces, East Indies, on behalf of the captors.—Egypt, 1882.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE AMENDMENT BILL.

[THE Criminal Procedure Bill was brought up again in the Legislative Council on Friday, the 9th March, when Mr. Ilbert moved that the Bill, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, and Statement of Objects and Reasons, be published in the *Gazette of India* and in the local official Gazettes in English and in such other languages as the Local Governments think fit. The Council sat till a quarter to 8 o'clock in the evening, nearly nine hours, all the members (with the exception of Messrs. Baring and Hope) taking part in the debate on the Bill. At the close of the discussion the Viceroy spoke as follows :—]

I am very sorry that I should feel it my duty to detain the members of this Council yet a while after the lengthened and able discussion to which we have listened for so many hours; but I feel bound to make some statement, before this discussion closes, of the grounds upon which the Government have proceeded in introducing this Bill, and to explain the reasons which led them to think that it was a right and a reasonable measure. The observations which I wish to make now will be, as far as possible, of a strictly practical character. I do not intend or desire to enter into needless controversy, for I wish to reserve to myself the freedom carefully to weigh and consider the arguments which have been adduced in the course of this debate on both sides of the question at issue. It has been to me a source of regret that I have not had an opportunity before to-day of explaining the course which the Government has pursued; but that I have not had an earlier opportunity of doing so has not been my fault. It was the intention of the Government to have taken a discussion upon this Bill upon the 23rd of February. We never had the least intention of hurrying this measure through the Council, or of proceeding with it further than the stage which I described when it was brought in as the second reading stage during the present Calcutta season; but we did propose, and it was necessary that we should propose

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as the rules stood when this Bill was brought in, that it should have been referred to a Select Committee before we left here, with a view to its being afterwards circulated and published as the rules required. But when my honourable friends Mr. Evans and Mr. Miller became acquainted with the intention of the Government to take a further stage of this Bill on the 23rd of February, they represented that they were somewhat taken by surprise by that proposal. Not that I understood them to make any complaint of want of good faith on the part of the Government; but they urged that they did not expect any such discussion to come on on that date. In consequence of those representations, I had an interview with my honourable and learned friend, Mr. Evans, on the 19th of February, and I then said to him that I was anxious that this discussion should take place, because I felt that it was only fair to the Government that they should have an early opportunity of explaining at greater length than had been explained by my honourable and learned friend Mr. Ilbert, when he brought in this Bill, the objects of this measure, and the reasons which had induced them to submit it to this Council. I said to my honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans—"You may perhaps object to a discussion, in the nature of a second reading, but it is possible for us under the present rules to take a formal discussion upon a reference of this Bill to Local Governments; that would afford a sufficient opportunity for the statement that I propose to make, and would not involve a discussion upon the principle of the Bill." My honourable and learned friend took time to consider whether he could agree to that proposal, or whether he must adhere to the objection previously urged on his own behalf and on that of Mr. Miller to the discussion on the date proposed, and on the next day he informed me that he could not waive that objection. I then had to choose between putting my honourable and learned friend and Mr. Miller at some disadvantage, and putting

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myself and the Government at some disadvantage. I chose the latter alternative. It has been one of the many accusations made against the Government, that they delayed a further explanation on this subject: those who have used that argument will now have an opportunity of judging of the justice of their charge. I may as well also say, as my honourable and learned friend is here and will bear me out, that, when I saw him on the 19th of February, I explained to him that the Government had no intention of passing the Bill during the present session; to that my honourable and learned friend assents. I was, therefore, somewhat surprised when I saw next day a statement in Reuter's telegram, that something had been said in the House of Commons, which appeared to imply that this measure was going to be pressed forward now; and I immediately explained to the Secretary of State that that statement was not correct. It was founded on an entire misapprehension of the intentions of the Government. It would have been totally inconsistent with the declared policy of the present Government of India, if they had thought of unduly pressing forward this measure, and of not affording the fullest opportunity to the public and those interested in the matter to consider it. My honourable friend Mr. Miller touched upon that point, and he seemed, I thought, somewhat to complain that the public had not been consulted in this case in the manner in which we professed to consult them in respect to our legislative measures. Now, that charge—if it was meant as a charge—is founded on a mistake. The Government never professed that they would submit their Bills to the public before being brought in. No Government ever did, or could do, such a thing. All that we said was that, when our measures were brought in and published, the public should have the fullest opportunity of considering them; and that we ourselves desire to consider any representations which might be made to us, upon any proposals for

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legislation which we might so submit. To that course we have strictly adhered in this case, and have acted in perfect and absolute accordance with all our professions in respect to giving the public full time to consider our legislative proposals.

I thought it necessary to make these observations, in order to clear away some misapprehensions and misrepresentations which have surrounded this matter for some time.

And now I will proceed to state very briefly the history of this transaction. Something was said upon the occasion of the introduction of this Bill by Sir Jotíndra Mohan Tagore about an undertaking which had been given him last year to the effect that this subject would be considered by the Government of India. What took place on that occasion was this. When the Criminal Procedure Code was before the Council last year, one of my honourable colleagues—I cannot exactly remember which—who was a Member of the Select Committee on that Bill, came to me and said that Mahārājā Jotíndra Mohan Tagore had told the Select Committee that he intended to raise the question of the powers of Native Magistrates to exercise jurisdiction over European British subjects. That was at a time when the Bill had nearly reached its last stage, and my honourable colleague said, with perfect justice, that it would be entirely impossible to take up a question of such magnitude upon that stage of the Bill; and he said to me, “I think, if you were to speak to the Mahārājā and tell him that, if he did not bring this matter forward now, the question would be considered by the Government, he probably would not press his notice of amendment.” I replied, “I will consult my colleagues;” and I did consult the Members of the Executive Government at that time, and it was with their full consent that I told Mahārājā Jotíndra Mohan Tagore that the subject in which he was interested should receive the full consideration of the

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Government. Of course, by so saying I gave no pledge whatever to the Mahārājā as to what would be the decision at which the Government would ultimately arrive. All that I did say was—and that promise I and my colleagues intended to keep—that we would consider this question after the new Criminal Procedure Code had passed. But, before we had taken any steps whatever to fulfil that pledge, we received from Sir Ashley Eden a letter which is contained in these papers, and that letter winds up as the summary of the opinion of Sir Ashley Eden with these words :—

“For these reasons Sir Ashley Eden is of opinion that the time has now arrived when all Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service should be relieved of such restrictions of their powers as are imposed on them by Chapter XXXIII of the new Code of Criminal Procedure, or when at least Native Covenanted Civilians who have attained the position of District Magistrate or Sessions Judge should have entrusted to them full powers over all classes, whether European or Native, within their jurisdictions.”

That opinion was expressed to us by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal; it was a clear and distinct opinion. There is not one word in Mr. Cockerell's letter from which I have quoted which indicated any probability that a proposal of that kind would be received,—I will not say with resentment, but even with disapproval—by any portion of the community. Now, it is not necessary that I should recall to the recollection of this Council who was the person who made that recommendation. You all know that Sir Ashley Eden had been for five years Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal; you all know that he was a man of large experience, and that he was intimately acquainted with the feelings of the European population; and certainly there was ample proof that he had their respect and confidence in the remarkable ovations which he received just before he left the country. Sir Ashley Eden did not accompany that letter by any other communications upon the subject, and therefore I had no doubt

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whatever that it contained his deliberate opinion and advice to the Government of India. My honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans says that Sir Ashley Eden only wanted to put his opinion on record ; and he did not at all mean that anything should be done about it now. He only desired to say what he should like to see done at some future opportunity. But, in the first place, he says distinctly, in the summing up of his letter, " the time has now arrived for the change ;" and, in the next place, it must be borne in mind that, if Sir Ashley Eden did not mean that the question should be taken up at an early date upon his proposal, he had a perfect opportunity of saying so ; because, by a singular coincidence marking the high respect entertained for that distinguished man by Her Majesty's Government, he went straight from the Government of Bengal to the Council of the Secretary of State at Home ; he was a member of that Council when our proposals were submitted to and sanctioned by the Secretary of State ; and, therefore, if we had misinterpreted his views as my honourable and learned friend appears to think, or if we had acted hastily on his opinion, he would undoubtedly have said so ; and I cannot for a moment think that my noble friend Lord Hartington would not have communicated the fact to me : he did not do so. I should like to say one other word about Sir Ashley Eden. In the earlier stages of this controversy, before a large number of persons took to using strong language, they used language of a milder kind, and they talked about this Bill as an ideal and sentimental measure. Now, I must say that, if ever I came across a man in my life who was not remarkable for the sentimental side to his character, that man was Sir Ashley Eden. I do not think that I ever knew a man less likely to be led away by vague sentiment or mere theory than Sir Ashley Eden. Then, what did Government do ? If they had been so very keen to carry out this proposal, if they had been so very ready to pro-

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ceed rashly in this matter,—they would have had a very fair ground for acting at once, in the mere fact that a man so experienced as Sir Ashley Eden had recommended them to take that action. But they did nothing of the kind; they consulted the Local Governments on the subject, and the opinions of those Local Governments are before this Council. I have heard it said that those Local Governments felt themselves bound to give opinions which they thought would be agreeable to the Government of India. Well, really it is needless on behalf of the Local Governments that we consulted—of men so eminent as those who fill the office of heads of those Governments—for me to reply to a charge of that description. The question was very carefully considered by those Governments, and their opinions are, with the single exception of the Local Government of Coorg, in favour of amending the present law. It is quite true that the Government of Madras were divided among themselves, and that the opinion given in favour of the Bill was only decided by the casting vote of the Governor of that Presidency. It is also true that another gentleman, Mr. Howell, has given an opinion which, if not absolutely clear, must on the whole be regarded as unfavourable to this proposal, but he reported as Commissioner of the Birárs to the Resident at Haidar-ábád, who advocated the principle of this Bill; and therefore I am strictly correct in saying that all Local Governments, with the exception of Coorg, were in favour of an alteration of the law. My honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans, said that the only Local Government that is really concerned with this question at all is the Government of Bengal. But it was the Government of Bengal which started the question. I do not observe, however, that the European community in other parts of India appear inclined to admit that they have nothing to do with this subject; and I venture to think that all Local Governments have an interest in this matter, and are entitled to speak

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upon it. Can it be supposed that those distinguished men—many of them personal friends of my own—who are at the head of Local Governments, if they had anticipated—I will not say danger, but—serious inconvenience, would not have advised me privately that this was a measure that ought not to be pressed forward. There are, doubtless, in these papers differences of opinion between different Local Governments, as to the extent to which this measure should go, just as there have been differences among members of the Executive Council on the same subject. My honourable and gallant friend the Commander-in-Chief says that, though he supports the measure, he would confine it to District Magistrates and Sessions Judges. Sir Charles Aitchison, on the other hand, went further than any other head of a Local Government; and the measure as produced and brought forward by the Government of India is one which has struck a mean between these different proposals, and which, on the one hand, does not go so far as Sir Charles Aitchison recommended, and, on the other, goes somewhat further than the recommendations of some other Local Governments. Indeed, as a matter of fact, the measure was drawn up mainly in accordance with the amendments of the Code suggested in Sir Alfred Lyall's letter. Now, what was the next step taken with regard to this question? The next step taken was that the Government of India sent a despatch to the Secretary of State, Lord Hartington, last September, containing their proposals and forwarding the papers now before the Council. Lord Hartington must have received that letter late in September. It was upon the 7th of December that, in an answer to that letter, he stated that he had very carefully considered our proposals in Council, and that he gave them his sanction. My honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans alluded to the fact that this circular to Local Governments was not sent to the Government of Bengal. The course taken on the

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occasion was in accordance with the practice generally pursued, and it is a perfectly reasonable and intelligible practice followed by all the departments of the Government of India that, when one Local Government originates a proposal on which the Government desires to consult other Local Governments, the original proposal is sent round to those Governments, but not sent back to the Government from which it, in the first instance, emanated. The Bill was prepared and drafted in strict accordance with the proposals sanctioned by the Secretary of State. Leave was given to introduce it on the 2nd of February. It was brought in on the 9th of February; and the papers, containing the opinions of Local Governments, were circulated to members of Council and given to the public at the earliest possible opportunity. I believe I am right in saying that they were circulated to members of Council on the 12th February.

That is the history of this transaction up to the introduction of the Bill. And I turn now to consider what was the state of things in respect to the position of Natives of India in the Civil Service of the Crown, with which we had to deal. I am dealing now solely with the case of the Covenanted Civil Servants. I leave aside the question of the non-regulation provinces, which is not material to the present argument. I say nothing of Cantonment Magistrates, because my honourable and gallant friend the Commander-in-Chief has explained that Cantonment Magistrates are almost invariably military officers, and that no Native gentlemen are likely to be appointed to positions of that kind. The question, therefore, we have to consider here relates to the Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service, because it must be borne in mind that, although, in departmental practice, it has been the custom to describe the members of the Covenanted Civil Service admitted under Lord Lytton's rules, as members serving under the statutory rules, they are under

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those rules themselves—rules approved by the Secretary of State, Lord Cranbrook, and laid before Parliament—admitted to employment in Her Majesty's Covenanted Civil Service. These are the words of the rule as sanctioned by the Secretary of State and by Parliament; and therefore, the persons with whom we have to deal are the members of the Covenanted Civil Service. Our proposal, I would just point out, is a very much narrower one than that which was made in the year 1857, and to which Mr. Evans alluded. In that year there were no Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service. The proposal of 1857 would have subjected European British subjects to the jurisdiction of all the Mufassal Courts of every grade. The present Bill does not go nearly so far. Well, what is the state of things with which we have to deal now? I have said that in 1857 there were no Native members of the Civil Service at all. They have come in since;—first, by competition, having gone home and competed on equal terms with Englishmen, Irishmen and Scotchmen, and won their way in that competition into the Civil Service; and recently under the new system inaugurated in the time of Lord Lytton. The time has now arrived when some of these gentlemen have risen to high judicial positions. Mr. Tagore is one, and I have been informed that Mr. Dutt has also been raised to a similar office. Therefore, they are now beginning to reach these positions, and the number of those who fill such appointments must gradually and steadily increase. Mr. Miller asks in what have the times changed since 1872. They have changed in this respect, that some of these Native gentlemen have acquired these important positions, and others will go on rising to them in increasing numbers in coming years. But the great change which has taken place in regard to this question from an administrative point of view has been that which was made by Lord Lytton's Government in 1879. That change was made by the express order of the Government

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at home : indeed, after the reiterated orders of successive Secretaries of State. I am not about to express any opinion as to the mode in which these gentlemen are now admitted into the Covenanted Civil Service under the rules of 1879. It may be that these rules can be improved. Nothing is more probable than that experience may show that they are capable of amendment. But what we have to consider is, what is the position in which these rules place the gentlemen admitted under them, and what will be the effect of them as time goes on ? These gentlemen will rise in the Covenanted Service year by year, and they will be entitled to hold higher and higher offices as they advance, until, ultimately, they will attain to the highest judicial offices below the High Court. Now, it has been contended that the Local Governments, when they spoke of Covenanted Civilian, only meant those who had got in by competition. I have no reason to suppose that that is the case with any of the opinions which have been expressed, because the words "Covenanted Civil Service" cover all the members of that service. The Honourable Mr. Evans quoted Mr. Elliott, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, and he said that Mr. Elliott only proposed that these powers should be conferred upon persons who had got into the Covenanted Service by competition ; Mr. Elliott no doubt drew a distinction between the two classes ; but he said that he would extend the powers to the second class when they became District Magistrates or Sessions Judges. Now, it seems clear to me that, as these gentlemen in the Civil Service rise to the higher appointments, especially to the appointments of District Magistrates and Sessions Judges, increasing administrative inconvenience must ensue unless these additional powers are conferred on them. If they are to hold these offices, it appears to me that inconvenience of a serious kind must arise as time goes on ; indeed, I shall have to show that it has arisen already. The Honourable Mr. Evans has said that

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what we ought to do is to give the best justice we can to every one in the country without giving rise to administrative inconvenience. I entirely concur in that opinion, and I say administrative inconvenience has already begun to be felt, and it will increase. That being the state of things with which we had to deal, some of these gentlemen being already in high administrative positions, and a still larger number coming on from below, we felt it our duty to see in what way we could best remove this administrative inconvenience, and, I must also say, the injustice to suitors which would be caused by dragging them long distances over the country.

I turn to consider what is the scope of the Bill. I have shown you that the extent of our Bill is very much less than that of the Bill of 1857. It is very much less than that of the Bill brought in by Lord Dalhousie's Government in 1849. We have confined it to the strict necessities of the case, and the result of it would be that, if it were passed to-day, it would at once confer jurisdiction over European British subjects upon only two persons in India; and the number who would rise to that position during the next few years might not exceed four or five. That statement supplies, as it seems to me, the strongest argument against the proposal of the Government. It is said, why do this now when it will only affect Mr. Tagore and Mr. Dutt? Why do this now, when, if there is administrative inconvenience, it is only in one or two places; and I admit that I am bound to meet that objection, and to explain why the Government think that this is a convenient opportunity for making the change.

But, before I do so, I must point out that, of course, that argument cuts both ways. If the scope of the Bill is so very small, then it seems not altogether reasonable that it should have been encountered by such violent opposition. In stating the reasons why it appears to me to be desirable to make this change now, rather than to postpone it until

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the appointment of a much larger number of these gentlemen to high judicial positions, I desire to deal with this question strictly from a practical point of view. I am not going upon this occasion to enter into any examination whatever of any claims which these Native gentlemen may have to exercise this jurisdiction; but, at the same time, I cannot but ask members of this Council to consider whether—I do not speak now of justice or generosity—it is politic, if there be not an overwhelming necessity, for us to impose on these gentlemen restrictions which sensitive men would naturally feel. These men, it must be admitted, are the pick and cream of our Native Civil Service; those who are now in this position, or are about to enter into it, have won their way through a keen competition at home, and secured their position through their own ability. Under Lord Lytton's system, by which for the future at least one-sixth of the whole Covenanted Service will in course of time consist of Natives, we shall have to rely more and more year by year on the devotion and loyalty of these gentlemen. I think the question of policy is not undeserving of the consideration of this Council; but I pass from it to the practical question. My honourable friend Mr. Gibbs has shown you to-night that the idea that administrative inconvenience may arise is not an imagination or a theory; he has pointed out to you what are the circumstances in regard to Mr. Tagore, the Sessions Judge of Karwar; and he has explained that, if certain railway works, which, he says, are likely to commence there, are opened, they will bring European British subjects in considerable numbers into that district. If these persons are not tried by the Sessions Judge, they will either have to be sent by sea to Bombay, or have to march 80 or a 100 miles through a district which at many times of the year is very injurious to health. This constitutes a real administrative inconvenience, and it implies, not only an inconvenience to the administration of justice, but also a

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considerable hardship to the suitors and witnesses concerned. And it is surely clear that, though there is not at the present moment an irresistible necessity for introducing this measure, as Lord Lytton's system develops, an irresistible necessity will arise. When you have one-sixth of the Civil Service composed of Natives, it will be impossible to maintain the present restriction. Therefore, what we had to consider was—is it better to wait until this necessity becomes overwhelming and irresistible, or is it better to introduce the system now? I confess it appears to me that it is far wiser, and far more in the true and substantial interest of those over whom this jurisdiction is exercised, that it should be introduced now, when the persons who would obtain the powers are very limited in number, when the circumstances under which they enter the Civil Service insures their ability and character, and when all their proceedings can be carefully watched. Being few in number, it will be easier now than afterwards for the attention of the Local Governments and the public to be directed to their proceedings; and, being the men they are, it seems to me that they would be likely to set a good example and give a good tone to those who come after them. I hold it, therefore, to be wiser to introduce the measure now gradually, cautiously, and tentatively, than to wait till the change is forced upon us by necessity, and the powers which are now to be given only to a few men have to be given suddenly to a very much larger number of Native Civil Servants. This is the ground upon which I thought that the time had come when this change could best be made. The truth is, that the opposition to this Bill is in reality not so much an opposition to this particular measure, as an opposition to the declared policy of Parliament about the admission of Natives to the Covenanted Civil Service. That policy has been a deliberate policy; it commenced many years ago, and has been enforced steadily from time to time. It is not a

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policy of my invention or of the invention of the present Government at home or here; it is the policy of Parliament. What does Lord Cranbrook say upon that subject writing to Lord Lytton's Government on the 7th of November, 1878? He says—:

“The broad policy was laid down by Parliament so long ago as 1833, that no Native shall, by reason of his religion, place of birth or colour, be disabled from holding any office; and Her Majesty's gracious proclamation in 1858 announced her will that, as far as may be, ‘our subjects of whatever race or creed be impartially admitted to offices in our service, the duties of which they may be qualified by their education, ability and integrity duly to discharge.’”

“And he goes on to say:—

“Since that period several of my predecessors in office, and especially Lord Halifax, Sir Stafford Northcote, the Duke of Argyll, and Lord Salisbury, have pressed upon the attention of the Government of India that the policy of Parliament, enforced as it was by the Royal proclamation, was not to remain a dead-letter, and two Acts of Parliament were passed to give further effect to it. But, as Your Excellency justly observes, all endeavours hitherto to deal with this question on a satisfactory basis have proved unsuccessful. It is gratifying to observe that Your Lordship's elaborate treatment of the subject will enable a practical course to be taken, that will prove, it may be hoped, both beneficial to the State and satisfactory to the natural aspirations of the educated Natives of India.”

That is said not by me but by Lord Cranbrook; and I cannot doubt that, if that policy is now applied under the rules laid down by Lord Lytton's Government in 1879, and is carried out as he proposed, an alteration of the law in the direction in which this Bill goes is inevitable at no distant time. The Government of India have not the power, if they had the inclination, which certainly I have not, to withdraw from that policy; and Lord Cranbrook very distinctly tells us that, in his judgment, Parliament will not withdraw from it. Lord Lytton's original proposal was that, when he established a separate Native Service, permission to Natives to compete for the Civil

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Service in England should be withdrawn. What Lord Cranbrook says on that subject is this—

“But your proposal of a close Native Service, with a limited class of high appointments attached to it, and your suggestions that the Covenanted Civil Service should no longer be open to Natives, involve an application to Parliament which would have no prospect of success, and which I certainly would not undertake. Your Lordship has yourself observed that no scheme could have a chance of sanction which included legislation for the purpose of repealing the clause in the Act of 1833 above quoted; and the obstacles which would be presented against any attempt to exclude Natives from public competition for the Civil Service would be little less formidable.”

Therefore, it appears to me to be evident that the intention of Parliament has been to admit Natives, more and more largely, into the Covenanted Service; that steps were taken in 1879 after a considerable delay and frequent injunctions from the Secretary of State to carry out that intention more fully; and that the result has been, as I have stated, that we have now to deal with a state of things in which, before many years have elapsed, it will be, as I have said, simply impossible, on account of administrative inconvenience, to withhold powers of this description from the higher ranks of the Covenanted Native Service. The Honourable Mr. Evans has said that he could not admit the force of the argument that because Presidency Magistrates had power to try Europeans, therefore similar powers should be given to Native Magistrates in the Mufassal. I admit a considerable portion of the argument of my honourable friend, but he must allow me to say that the fact that Natives of India have been trying Europeans for a considerable number of years in Calcutta and Bombay is a conclusive argument against the theory that Englishmen have a constitutional right to be tried by Englishmen only. No one is more convinced than I am of the advantage of having a case argued before a Magistrate by trained lawyers; and I would not for a moment think of underrating its importance. Neverthe-

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less, I was rather struck with what I saw in a Bombay newspaper this morning. It certainly did seem rather curious, after all that has been said on this subject, to find that certain European gentlemen, composing what is called the Salvation Army, are being tried at this moment in Bombay by Mr. Dossabhoy Framjee. Their religious feelings are very intimately involved in the case which is being tried by that Native Magistrate. I did not intend to have said anything about the past history of this question, because, as I have mentioned before, my main object has been to explain the reasons which have induced the Government to bring in this Bill. But Mr. Evans has spoken with personal knowledge of what was called the compromise of 1872. On that point I would say this. There may have been a compromise between the members of the European community and the members of the Select Committee. Of that I know nothing, although I have not the least doubt that the Honourable Mr. Evans has stated exactly what occurred; but it is perfectly obvious that that compromise cannot have been a compromise with the Government; because, if it had been, then Lord Napier, Lord Napier of Magdala, Sir Richard Temple, Sir George Campbell, and Mr. Barrow Ellis could never for a moment have given their support to an amendment inconsistent with it. My honourable friend Mr. Ilbert, in the speech with which he commenced this discussion, pointed out that all the safeguards now possessed by Europeans, and all the special privileges now enjoyed by them, were left standing by this Bill, except the single one of being exempted from the jurisdiction of Magistrates who are not European British subjects. This Bill does not touch the rest of these safeguards; and the Government has not the least intention of submitting any proposals now or hereafter, certainly not as long as I am here, with the view of interfering with those privileges. But there is another matter which I look upon as in some respects a more

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important safeguard, and that is the power of supervision exercised by the High Court over all the courts below. What would be the result if a Native Magistrate trying an European acted towards him in an unjust manner? If the case came before the High Court, or if they even heard of it; they would be able to call for the proceedings, and the consequence would be to deprive that gentleman of the position which he might have so abused. That is the history of this measure, and of the grounds upon which it was introduced, and of the extent to which it goes. I know very well that a great deal has been said, as is always said when changes are introduced, about this being the thin end of the wedge. I can only say that, so far as this question is concerned, it is not the thin end of the wedge, and that this measure represents the final views of the present Government in respect to changes regarding this portion of the Criminal Procedure Code. Passing from the history of the course we have taken, and the motives which have actuated us, I may now state that we are perfectly ready to listen to reasonable remonstrances, to statements of fact, and to legitimate arguments. But neither this nor any other Government that will ever exist in India will, I hope, listen to violence, to exaggeration, to misrepresentation, and, least of all, to menace. It is perfectly natural that those whose interests are affected by this Bill, that those who would lose under it a privilege to which they evidently attach a great value, should bring their views on the subject before the Government, and should press them earnestly upon their attention. I should be the last man to complain of that being done, and I should be the last man not to give to such representations the fullest and most careful consideration; and those who are animated by the dread, which has been expressed in many quarters, of the results of this measure, may rely upon it that a fair representation of their opinions, supported by good arguments, will be listened to with the greatest attention. It

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is, of course, true that in this, as in every other question with which the Government of India has to deal, it is obliged to take a wider view than that confined exclusively to the interest of any single class of the community ; but it is also true that any special class of the community, which is specially affected by any particular measure, has a right to bring its views before the Government, and to expect that those views will be fully and carefully examined. I will not allude on this occasion to the character of a great deal of the opposition which has sprung up to this Bill, or to the means by which that opposition has been to a great extent conducted ; I will say nothing of the charges which have been made against myself, or of the systematic misrepresentation of my feelings and objects in regard to this and other measures. I pass that by, but I can truly say that it is a source of deep regret to me and all my colleagues to observe the difference which has in this matter sprung up between the Government and, I admit, a very large portion of the European community, especially on this side of India. I do not know whether anything that I can say will tend to mitigate the bitterness of the controversy or to induce calmness ; but if the vehemence of feeling is due in any degree to a misapprehension as to the scope of the Bill or the course which the Government intended to pursue in regard to it, or to a fear that we have ulterior designs which we never have entertained, then it is possible that this discussion may have done good. It is only right that it should be remembered that the Government never had the smallest idea of hurrying this Bill through the Council. They proposed to deal with it deliberately, and to afford the amplest opportunity for the representation of opinion in regard to it. It will be observed that it was before any such representations had reached the Government, and therefore before it had been in their power to consider them, that the proceedings which have been adverted to were adopted. This Bill will now,

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in accordance with the usual practice, be sent to the various Local Governments, and they will have an opportunity of recording their views upon it. These views will be sent up in due course, after careful examination by the Local Governments into all the circumstances of the case, for the consideration of the Government of India; and we shall then give to the observations of the Local Governments, and of the public which may have reached us in the meantime, the fullest weight and the most deliberate consideration. I frankly say that with those who desire—if any such there be—to retain the distinction which this Bill proposes to remove, merely because it is a race distinction, I have no sympathy whatever. To arguments which are inconsistent with the declared policy of the Crown and of Parliament it would be contrary to my duty to listen; but to fair reasons, urged in a manner to which the Government can give heed, the ears of myself and my colleagues will always be open on this and every other question. I observe that the opponents of this Bill speak of appealing to the House of Commons. I am the last man in the world to object to such a course being taken. To the decision of the House of Commons both parties to this controversy must bow. I do not think I have anything more to add now by way of explanation of the views of the Government. I have kept myself clear of controversy, because I wish to hold myself perfectly open to consider the arguments adduced on both sides in this debate. If I had thrown myself into this controversy, it might fairly be objected that I had not reserved to myself real freedom to consider those arguments. I have shown that this measure was recommended to the Government by Sir Ashley Eden, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal; that its principle has been approved by all the other Local Governments in India, with the exception of that of Coorg; and that it has been very carefully considered by the late Secretary of State for India, Lord Hartington, in Council, and sanctioned

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by him. I have recalled to the recollection of the Council the circumstances in which we stand at this moment, and those in which we shall stand in no distant future, with respect to the position of the Native members of the Covenanted Civil Service. I have pointed out how very limited the immediate effect of the Bill will be, and have stated the reasons which induce me to think that it is wiser to make the proposed change now, when it can be brought into operation gradually and cautiously, than to wait until administrative necessities and justice to suitors compel the Government to introduce it suddenly and extensively. Lastly, I have expressed the perfect readiness of the Government to consider and to weigh any remonstrances which may be made against this Bill, provided they are supported by arguments which are consistent with the policy of Parliament. The Government do not propose to take any further steps in this matter now, and ample time will thus be afforded for the deliberate examination by Local Governments, by the Government of India, and by the Government at home of any representations which may be made to them in connection with this measure.

[The Motion was put and agreed to.]

CENTRAL PROVINCES TENANCY BILL.

20th June 1883. [At a meeting of the Legislative Council held at Peterhoff, Simla, on Wednesday, the 20th June 1883, the Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert moved that the reports of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Agricultural Tenancies in the Central Provinces be taken into consideration ; he fully explained the objects of the proposed legislation, and the motion having been put and agreed to, he then moved for certain minor amendments in the Bill. A debate ensued, during which some of the amendments were accepted and some negatived; with respect to an amendment moved by Mr. Barkley in Section 29, the Viceroy remarked :—]

I should just like to ask one question as to the effect of this clause. The Hon'ble Member moves an amendment to section 29, but moves no amendment to section 30; and I am not quite clear whether, supposing an ordinary tenant of sîr land were to make an improvement with the consent of his landlord, there would be any provision in the Bill which would secure him legal compensation for the improvement so made.

[Mr. Ilbert having furnished the required information, His Excellency continued :—]

I agree with the Hon'ble Sir Steuart Bayley in thinking that it is very desirable to maintain the distinction between sîr land and raiyatwârí land. The amendments introduced by the Hon'ble Mr. Ilbert all tended in that direction. I should, therefore, be personally prepared to accept Mr. Barkley's amendment of section 29, provided that it is made clear that, if the tenant of the sîr land makes an improvement at his own expense with the consent of his landlord, he shall have a legal right to compensation. I am quite ready, in regard to sîr land, to make the consent of the landlord a *sine quâ non* ; but I am not prepared to admit that that consent having been obtained, the tenant shall be entitled to no compensation for improvements made at his own expense. That appears to me to be a highly unjust proceeding and one which ought to be

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guarded against by the law; but if that can be done, I shall be prepared to accept Mr. Barkley's amendment.

[The Motion was put and agreed to, and a further amendment embodying His Excellency's proviso was also passed. In connection with another motion by Mr. Barkley for amending section 43, proposing to allow collaterals in the line of descent from the person who acquired the holding to succeed in the absence of lineal heirs, the Viceroy remarked :—]

The question is one not altogether free from difficulty, but the weight of legal opinion appears to me to be so decidedly in favour of the Bill and opposed to the amendment, that I shall vote against it.

[The Motion was put and negatived. A discussion then took place on an amendment to a clause under section 58 proposed by Mr. Barkley. This section provided for the procedure to be followed in ejectment suits, and sub-section (2) empowered the Court, in case the defendant did not appear, or refused to pay the enhanced rent demanded, to pass a decree for ejectment on condition that within fifteen days from the date of the decree the landlord deposited in Court * * * * * “(b) a further sum as compensation for disturbance equal to seven times the yearly increase of rent demanded.” Mr. Barkley proposed to substitute for the words “equal to” the words “not less than three times and not exceeding.” Mr. Quinton and Sir S. Bayley opposed the amendment, and His Excellency remarked :—]

I cannot accept this amendment. The question, as my friend Sir Steuart Bayley has said, has been extremely carefully considered by the Select Committee and the Government. The original proposal was to fix the rate at ten times the increase, but, in consequence of representations received from the Central Provinces, that figure was reduced to seven times the increase of rent—a very small amount to be demanded for compensation for disturbance, and very greatly less than that demanded under the Irish Land Act. This is making the experiment on a small scale. It appears to me to be sufficient for the circumstances of the Central Provinces, where population is thin and where farms are rather seeking for tenants than

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tenants for farms. It seems to me to be the least that could be proposed, and, therefore, I cannot accept the amendment proposed by my hon'ble friend.

[The Motion was put and negatived. A discussion next ensued on Section 62 of the Bill. Briefly, that section enabled the tenant, on payment to the landlord of $2\frac{1}{2}$ years' normal rental, to compel the landlord to confer upon him the rights of an occupancy tenant. Mr. Barkley now proposed to substitute for this section another removing the obligation on the landlord to confer such occupancy rights. Mr. Quinton and Sir Steuart Bayley opposed the proposal, and Lord Ripon remarked upon it as follows :—]

I most strongly object to the substitution proposed by my hon'ble friend. When he speaks of section 62 as an encroachment on the rights of landlords, it is necessary that we should consider what are the rights of landlords at the present moment in the Central Provinces. We are not talking of the abstract rights of landlords. That subject is a very large one. What we have to deal with are the rights of landlords in the Central Provinces now, and those rights are subject to the provision of Act X of 1859, which confers on the tenant the power of obtaining occupancy-rights if he occupies the same land for a period of twelve years ; therefore the rights of landlords in the Central Provinces at present are limited by the rights of tenants to acquire, by a certain process, an occupancy-right in their lands. The framers of the Bill in its present shape were led to believe that it would be desirable to put an end to the existing mode of obtaining occupancy-rights by the tenants, in consequence of the serious objections which may be urged against any system under which a tenant acquires occupancy-rights by a mere lapse of time. It seemed, therefore, desirable to get rid of that system in the Central Provinces before it had produced there those evils and those difficulties in the relations of landlord and tenant which have been found to spring from it in other parts of India. The question, then, the Committee had to consider was, what substitute they should give to

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tenants for this power of obtaining rights of occupancy by the lapse of time. My hon'ble friend Mr. Barkley says that Bill No. I, as introduced by Mr. Grant, did not contain this proposal. Doubtless not; but it did not propose to abolish the twelve-years' rule. Bill No. I retained the twelve-years' rule, and gave tenants that mode of acquiring rights which the present Bill seeks to supersede. It appears to me that one of the great advantages of the present proposal over the twelve-years' rule is that, whereas, practically speaking, the twelve-years' rule gives occupancy-rights to tenants by accident, this proposal, on the contrary, gives the power of obtaining such rights to thrift and to frugality. Under the twelve-years' rule, it depends on an accident whether a landlord gives a tenant notice to quit before the expiration of twelve years, and thus takes the measures necessary to prevent the accrual of the right; on the other hand, it is the thrifty tenants who will under the new proposal be able to purchase an occupancy-right. The right will depend not upon accident—not upon whether the landlord will allow the tenant to remain in possession for twelve years, but upon whether by frugality he is able to lay by sufficient to enable him to purchase an occupancy-right in the manner proposed by section 62. Now, my hon'ble friend Mr. Barkley says there is not much evidence to show that this proposal has been accepted by those best acquainted with the Central Provinces. I may say that, in the first place, it has been accepted by Sir J. H. Morris, than whom no one is better acquainted with the circumstances and requirements of those provinces. It has also been most carefully and closely considered by my hon'ble friend Mr. Crosthwaite, who had charge of the Bill originally. I have discussed it with him several times, and it is most unfortunate that we have not his presence here to-day. I felt bound to call him to higher functions during the absence of Mr. Bernard, but, had he been present here, he would have given us the

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weight of his great experience in the Central Provinces to meet the objections taken by Mr. Barkley. I must also point out that, if we were to adopt the amendment proposed by Mr. Barkley in this matter, we should actually put the raiyats in the Central Provinces in a worse position than they are now in. We should have abolished their power of acquiring the right of occupancy under the twelve-years' rule, and substituted for it nothing but a legal power to the landlord to sell them this right if he chose to do so. It is quite impossible that the Council can accept a proposal of that kind. For a considerable time this clause may be made little use of, but it will enable those tenants who have laid by a small amount of capital to acquire the greater security which occupancy-rights afford, and without it the result of the Bill would be to shut the door to all hope of raiyats ever acquiring that security at all.

Under these circumstances, I cannot give my vote in favour of the amendment proposed by my hon'ble friend Mr. Barkley.

[The Motion was put and negatived. Mr. Ilbert next moved that the Bill as amended be passed; and, after some remarks from Mr. Quinton and Mr. Hunter, the Viceroy spoke as follows:—]

I should like to make one or two observations on the remarks which have fallen from my hon'ble friend Mr. Hunter. I listened with feelings of alarm to a great portion of that speech, because I felt it was a very powerful argument against the provisions of this Bill, and I began to fear that the Bill might be open to the objections which he was urging against it. But I confess I was somewhat comforted by the last sentence of his speech, in which he said that this Bill made ample provision for the right of the cultivators so long as the population was sparse. That, however, is really all that the Bill professes to do. Certainly it was all I thought that the Bill would do. It appears to me that, in dealing with this very diffi-

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cult question of the relations between landlord and tenant, what we have to do is to treat it with reference to the varying conditions of different parts of India as they come before us when we undertake legislation. I feel strongly that legislation which might be wise for one province with a thin population might be altogether inadequate to provide proper securities for the cultivators of the soil in the more thickly populated districts of India.

In preparing the Bill, the object of its framers has been to deal with the circumstances of the province at the present time. It is undesirable to interfere more than may be necessary in the relations between landlord and tenant, because such interference is always a delicate matter. I am not, however, one of those who object to interference of that kind when necessary, but I think it wise in undertaking such interference to pay careful regard to the agricultural arrangements of each district, and I am not at all inclined to attempt to force one uniform system upon all parts of the country.

My friend Mr. Hunter spoke of the case of Ireland. He said that some of the proposals in this Bill were borrowed from Bills passed in respect of Ireland, and that they were even less extended in their scope than the proposals contained in the Irish Land Act of 1870, which have been proved to be inadequate. My answer to that objection is this. In Ireland you have a much more keen competition for land than at present exists in the Central Provinces. What may be inadequate in Ireland may not be inadequate in the present circumstances of the Central Provinces. It is very possible that this measure may not afford sufficient protection for the rights of ordinary tenants in the Central Provinces if their circumstances should change. But if they do change, it will be the duty of the Government of India to consider what legislative arrangements will be necessary to meet their altered condition. What we have endeavoured to do now is to provide for these circum-

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stances as we find them, and to have recourse to the minimum of interference in the arrangements between landlord and tenant, which appear to us to be sufficient to give the cultivators of the soil in those provinces due protection against exorbitant enhancement of rent and arbitrary eviction. It is my hope that this measure will be effectual for that purpose; but this remains to be seen. Ten or twenty years hence it is possible that these arrangements may be found inadequate, and, should, that be the case, it will be for the Government of that day to apply a remedy.

I confess, with respect to the twelve-years' rule, that I cannot speak of it with the amount of satisfaction with which it has been spoken of by my hon'ble friend Mr. Hunter. I share strongly the opinion expressed in an able paper on the Bengal rent question by my friend Mr. Justice Cunningham, who brings forward there, very clearly and plainly, the objections which lie against any system which makes the acquirement of occupancy-rights dependent on the efflux of a fixed and determined period of time. All the evidence goes to show that that system is open to objection, and it is very undesirable that it should be allowed to grow up. My hon'ble friend Mr. Hunter argues that the evils resulting from it have not yet sprung up in the Central Provinces; but there is evidence to show that they are already appearing there as the population increases; and it seems to me that it was advisable to put a stop to them now, rather than to wait till we have to encounter hereafter those difficulties which now meet us in Bengal. I yield to no man in the desire to protect the just rights of tenants, and I hope and believe that this Bill will operate to strengthen the position of the cultivating tenants of the Central Provinces. The Bill is not intended, as has been justly remarked by the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton, as a precedent to be followed in other provinces the condition of which is very different, but it is a measure applicable to

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the circumstances of the day in the Central Provinces ; and, if hereafter it should require amendment, I have no doubt that the Government of India will know how to deal with any fresh circumstances which may arise.

[The Motion was put and agreed to.]

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH LOCAL
BOARDS BILL.

[At a meeting of the Legislative Council held at Peterhoff, Simla, 12th Sept. 1883 on Wednesday, the 12th September 1883, the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton moved that the report of the Select Committee for the constitution of Local Boards in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh be taken into consideration, and entered into a lengthy explanation of some of the more important changes made in the Bill as originally introduced. He was followed by Mr. Hunter, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, and Sir S. Bayley, who discussed some of the provisions of the Bill requiring elucidation. Mr. Quinton having supplemented his former remarks by some explanations which were rendered necessary by the foregoing discussion, Mr. Ilbert spoke in support of the proposed measure, when His Excellency the Viceroy concluded the debate as follows:—]

The remarks which have been made by the Hon'ble Members on this and previous occasions at the several stages of the Bill have so fully explained the objects and purposes of this and the sister measure which will be passed, I trust, in a few minutes, and I myself have had so many occasions of expressing my views on the question of local self-government in India, that I need not now occupy the time of the Council. But I cannot let those two Bills pass without expressing my hope that they will prove to be measures calculated to make a substantial advance in the development of local self-government; and it is a great satisfaction to me that these Bills should be passed by this Council during the time I have the honor to preside over it.

PUNJAB LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT BILL.

10th Oct. 1883. [In the Legislative Council, on Wednesday, the 10th October, the Hon'ble Mr. Barkley moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to make better provision for Local Self-Government in the Punjab be taken into consideration. Mr. Barkley explained at some length the various changes made in the Bill by the Select Committee, and was followed by Sir Charles Aitchison, who spoke in terms of approval of the policy and objects of the Bill, remarking, in conclusion, that no effort would be wanting on his part to make the working of the Bill successful in the Punjab. The Viceroy spoke as follows :—]

I cannot let this Bill pass without expressing the great satisfaction which I feel that a measure intended to enable my hon'ble friend opposite, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, fully and completely to carry out his Resolution of the 7th September 1882, should at last have been brought to completion, and should be about to become law. This measure has been so framed as to give the fullest possible effect to the Resolution to which I have just alluded, and that Resolution was drawn up in complete accordance with the views of the Government of India as laid down in their Resolution of the 18th May 1882. The Lieutenant-Governor has, from the commencement, formed the most just estimate of the views and intentions of the Government of India as set forth in that Resolution, and under this Bill he will be enabled, according to his judgment of the requirements of the various localities under his Government, to give to the principles which that Resolution embodied, such development as he thinks most suitable to the circumstances of each locality.

It has been said, in criticism of this Bill, that it is, as my hon'ble friend has just explained, an enabling, rather than an enacting, measure. No doubt that is the case ; but it was essential that that should be the character of

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legislation upon this subject, if one of the most fundamental principles of the Resolution of the 18th May was to be carried out, the principle, namely, that the system sketched out in that Resolution was to be applied in different degrees to the different provinces of India and to the different districts of each province.

One of the points most clearly explained in that Resolution, was the very obvious one that in a country so diversified as India, it was essentially necessary to vary the arrangements for local self-government according to the varying condition, not of each province, but almost of each district in each province; variety was contemplated by that Resolution, and I myself have always regarded it as an essential feature of the proposal of the Government. I have, therefore, been rather surprised, that other Local Governments have not, as that of my hon'ble friend has done, reserved to themselves more complete powers of varying the modes of applying the system of local self-government, and that they have rather tied themselves down to a cut-and-dry system to be applied generally throughout the districts under their Government. It is however quite true that if there be any province which more than another requires the adoption of different arrangements in different districts, that province is the Punjab. In the Punjab we have every variety of social circumstances; every variety of development; great differences of race and of creed, from old-settled districts like that of Delhi, to the border districts on the Afghan frontier, and to hill tracts, like those in which we are living at the present moment. It was, therefore, extremely natural that the Lieutenant-Governor should feel it necessary to take large powers in order to enable him to give adequate elasticity to the schemes to be adopted in different parts of the province under his rule. Undoubtedly a measure of this kind makes a large demand upon public confidence; and it will depend very largely upon my hon'ble friend

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to what extent he carries out the principles of local self-government in the Punjab. The Bill enables him to apply the principles sketched out in the Resolution of the 18th May to the fullest extent, but it will not compel him to do so. He has given to the public, in his Resolution of the 7th September 1882, the fullest assurance as to the mode in which he intends to exercise the powers conferred upon him, and I have the most complete and entire confidence that, when this Bill becomes law, he will, without delay, apply the principles laid down for his guidance by the Government of India in such degree, in such manner, and to such extent, as he may feel to be most suitable to the various parts of the territory under his administration.

When the boards to be established under this Bill have once been set up, the measure contains all due provisions that they shall not be arbitrarily or rashly abolished ; that, once established, they shall not be overthrown except in rare cases in which adequate reasons may exist for the change ; and I hold, therefore, that the public may regard with complete satisfaction the passing of this Bill as assuring to the Punjab a wide development of the system of local self-government.

As Sir Charles Aitchison has said, that system is not a new one ; the Government of India of the present day lay no claim to having in this matter struck out a novel policy ; all that they have done is that they have endeavoured to make a large step in the direction of extending and developing the work which their predecessors commenced ; and I am quite sure that that extension and development will nowhere be more thoroughly and fully carried into effect than in the Punjab, under the rule of my hon'ble friend.

Sir Charles Aitchison has said something upon the taxing clauses in this Bill, and upon that subject I have one observation to make. The principle which the Government of India desire to see applied in respect to the matter

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of taxation is this: when any service is handed over to the new boards which are about to be established, there should be given to them at the same time an ample amount of funds out of existing taxation to enable them to maintain that service in its present state of efficiency. I should be exceedingly sorry if there should be any mistake on this subject, or if it should be supposed that the present extension of local self-government had been devised for the purpose of forcing additional taxation upon the people. That is not our intention; whatever duties the boards are required to undertake they will have funds given to them for the purpose of enabling them to discharge those duties upon the existing scale; if in future years they should desire to do more, of course they will provide for that at their own will under the taxing clauses of the Bill; but in regard to any services now provided for out of general or provincial funds which may be handed over to them, means will be given to them at the same time for fulfilling those services without any increase of the total existing taxation.

I have thought it desirable to make this point quite clear, because there has, perhaps, been some misapprehension upon it, and because the principle which I have just laid down is one to which the Government of India and the Secretary of State attach great importance.

I have only, in conclusion, to congratulate my hon'ble friend the Lieutenant-Governor upon the passing of this Bill, and to express my entire confidence that he will work it in complete accordance with the spirit of his Resolution of the 7th September 1882.

[The Motion was put and agreed to.]

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LAND IMPROVEMENT LOANS BILL.

10th Oct. 1883. [In the Legislative Council on the 10th October, the Hon'ble Mr. Quinton moved that the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to loans of money for agricultural improvements be taken into consideration. He explained at length the objects of the Bill and the alterations made by the Select Committee. Sir Steuart Bayley and Mr. Hope also addressed the Council on the Bill and were followed by the Viceroy, who spoke as follows :—]

I do not wish to detain the Council at any length, but I should like to make one or two observations before this motion is submitted to the Council. The object of the Bill has been very clearly stated by my hon'ble friend, Mr. Quinton. It has been found in practice that the provisions of the Acts upon the subject of loans from Government for land improvement have not been made use of so largely as was desirable, and have, in certain respects, tended to discourage recourse on the part of landholders and cultivators of the soil to the Government for assistance of this description. My hon'ble friends, Mr. Quinton and Sir Steuart Bayley, have quoted extracts from the report of the Famine Commission, which show how much importance they attached to loans of this sort, and there can be no doubt, I think, that there are few objects of greater public interest than the encouragement by every possible means of the improvement of land devoted to agricultural purposes.

The amendments in the existing law proposed in this Bill have all been made with the object of rendering recourse to loans from the Government for land improvement more easy; and removing some, at all events, of the proved obstacles which exist under the present law to the use of such loans.

I, no more than my hon'ble friend, Mr. Quinton, can venture to say whether this Bill, when it becomes law, will

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lead to a great extension of applications for Government loans. When this measure was first introduced it was, I think, my honourable friend Sir Evelyn Baring—whose loss to this Council every Member, I am confident, deeply regrets—who said that he was not very sanguine as to the practical results that might follow from this measure. Be that as it may, I hope that the greater facilities which this Bill will afford for obtaining these loans, will, at all events, tend to encourage applications for them, and to induce the cultivators of the soil to make greater use of the capital of the Government for the improvement of their land.

I might content myself with these few remarks and put the question at once, but there are one or two points which have been alluded to by previous speakers upon which I should like to say a few words.

With respect to Agricultural Banks, I desire only to say that I hope no one will suppose that by the omission from this Bill of the clauses touching upon that subject, which were included in the original Bill, the Government imply any intention of abandoning the object which they then had in view. My honourable friend Sir Steuart Bayley has stated that that important object is still under the consideration of the Government, and that it is shortly their intention to address the Secretary of State in respect to it. No measure of this kind could be undertaken without the sanction of the Home Government, and I hope that the public will clearly understand that the withdrawal from this Bill of those clauses, imperfect in their nature as they were, does not in the least degree mean that the Government have lost their interest in the question, or given up the solution of it as hopeless.

I now come to the point touched on at some length by Sir Steuart Bayley, namely, that dealt with in the eleventh section of the Bill as it now stands, to which Mr. Quinton is about to move an amendment when the present discussion is disposed of. Sir Steuart Bayley has said that he at

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one time was of opinion that it would have been better to have omitted section 11 altogether from this Bill, and not to have dealt in this measure with this particular subject. I quite admit that section 11 relates only to a portion—in fact only to a small portion—of a much larger question, and that the principles which that section lays down are principles which must have, and ought to have, a much wider application than that which can be given to them under the present Bill. But at the same time I think that the Select Committee acted wisely in not striking out section 11 from this Bill ; because I cannot but think that when that section had once been introduced, and the Bill published with it, its entire removal would have led to serious misapprehension as to the intentions of Government with regard to the assessment on land improved by the owner or occupier, and increased in value by such improvement. I therefore think that it was wise, having once put in the section, to leave it in the Bill, amending it so as to make clear the views of the Government upon the matter with which it deals. With regard to the question of principle I will not detain the Council long, because it is a much larger question than that raised in this particular measure, and it is one on which the Government will have hereafter to express their opinion much more fully : but at the same time, after what has fallen from my honourable friend Sir Steuart Bayley, I should like to say a few words as regards my own opinion on this subject. Sir Steuart Bayley has said that there are two theories on this question—the English theory and the Indian theory,—and he defined the English theory to be, that a tenant who made improvements in the land which he occupied, ought, if he were removed from his farm, to receive compensation based upon the addition which his improvement had made to the letting value of the land. I very much wish that I could say that that is the recognised English theory upon this question. It is my own theory unquestionably, and it is a theory which

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has been partially, and in the end I fear imperfectly, adopted by Parliament at home ; but it is a theory only held by a certain number of persons, and there is a wholly antagonistic theory very prevalent among other persons in England, namely, that the tenant should only receive, on quitting his holding, repayment of the actual outlay he may have made on his improvements.

For myself, as I have said, I entirely hold, in respect to ordinary cultivated land, to the theory which Sir Steuart Bayley has described as the English theory.

I think that if a tenant, by his own exertion and the expenditure of his own capital, adds to the letting value of my land, I ought, if he leaves his farm, to compensate him for the additional letting value of the land of which I am about to take possession. I think that is a perfectly sound and just principle with respect to land under full cultivation, because although it is, I know, said that there are two factors in the results of all improvement, namely, the expenditure of the tenant's capital and labour, and the inherent qualities of the soil, in the case of cultivated land, this second factor should not, as it seems to me, be regarded as constituting an appreciable element in the calculation of the value of a tenant's improvements. For the right to enjoy the results of the inherent qualities of the soil is already covered by the payment of his ordinary rent, and the addition to the letting value of his land arising from his improvements may therefore be treated as resulting only from his expenditure of capital and labour, and may fairly be taken as the measure of the compensation which should be given to him in respect of such improvements, when he quits the land.

Therefore, it appears to me that the principle laid down in section 11 as it stood is a right principle in regard to what I may describe as fully cultivated land, but I admit that the case of what may be broadly called reclamation differs very materially from that of the improvement of

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land already under full cultivation. In the case of the reclamation of land by a very small expenditure of capital and labour, a very great result may often in a few years be produced. The inherent qualities of the land are the principal factor; the outlay of the occupier is a much more limited factor, and the true mode of dealing with cases of that kind seems to me to be the adoption of what is called in England an improvement lease. The land should be let at a low rent or should be assessed to revenue at a low rate for a certain number of years, so that the cultivator may recoup himself for the operations which he carries on in order to bring the waste land under cultivation.

He should have ample time to fairly repay himself for that expenditure, and the rent or revenue, at first very low, should be gradually increased, until at length, when the land has been brought into a state of cultivation, it becomes reasonable that the Government or the landowner should step in once for all and place upon the land the full ordinary rates of rent or revenue of similarly cultivated land in the neighbourhood.

After that has once been done, then any other improvements that the occupier of land may subsequently make ought to fall under the principle laid down in the first portion of section 11, and the person making the improvement should be entitled to reap the full and entire benefit of any addition that he may make to the letting value of the land. That appears to me to be a fair mode of dealing with the question of the reclamation of land, and from the information which I have received, I believe that the case of unirrigated land, especially in the Punjab, and probably also in other parts of India, which is let at unirrigated rates, falls very much into the same category as that of unreclaimed land, because by a very small expenditure of money or labour on the part of the occupier of the soil a very large additional value may be given to the land. Consequently I am quite prepared to admit, as

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proposed by the amendment of Mr. Quinton, that "where the improvement consists of the reclamation of waste land, or of the irrigation of land assessed at unirrigated rates, the increase may be so taken into account after the expiration of such period as may be fixed by rules to be framed by the Local Government with the approval of the Governor General in Council."

My honourable friend Sir Steuart Bayley alluded to the difficulty which had been felt in drawing any such distinction as Mr. Crosthwaite originally proposed to draw between different descriptions of improvement. I admit the force of that remark as applied to the particular proposal made by Mr. Crosthwaite, but it appears to me that between improvements on land under full cultivation, and improvements made for the purpose of reclamation of waste land, or for the irrigation of land at present unirrigated, a line may be distinctly drawn which is, in itself, in this country and elsewhere, quite defensible upon grounds of principle. No line of this kind that you can draw can be absolutely satisfactory; there must always be border cases difficult to deal with; but it seems to me that such a line as I have described is easy and simple and rests upon clear and intelligible grounds.

Under these circumstances I readily agree to the adoption of the amendment which my honourable friend Mr. Quinton is about to move, and with that alteration it appears to me that section 11 will lay down an important and valuable principle which I hope to see in course of time much more widely adopted.

I have no more to say at the present moment on this subject. I have every hope that the Bill will make an important improvement in the existing law, and it will afford me great satisfaction if it should be largely made use of by those for whose benefit it is intended.

[The Motion was put and agreed to, and the Bill was subsequently passed.]

OPENING THE CALCUTTA INTERNATIONAL
EXHIBITION.

4th Dec. 1883. [ON Tuesday afternoon, the 4th December, Lord Ripon opened the Calcutta International Exhibition, in the presence of a very large assemblage. His Excellency was accompanied on the occasion by their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Her Excellency Lady Ripon, and Sir James Fergusson, Governor of Bombay. The central square of the Museum was the scene of the ceremony. The columns of the upper arcading round the hall were draped with banners, depending from the capital of each column. These were of bright colours, and bore such cognizances as the Lion of England, the Imperial spread Eagle of Germany, and the Harp of Ireland. From the capital of the columns of the lower arcade were smaller banners, but still bearing similar arms and cognizances. Over the entire breadth of the central square was stretched a canopy of cloth, arranged in alternate bands of white, blue, and crimson. The seats for the spectators were on either side of the avenue from the entrance to the canopied throne, and in the verandahs, above and below, there was accommodation for many thousands. The dais or canopied platform, on the north side of the square, was of very rich appearance; it was of Pagoda form, and was surmounted by a handsome jewelled crown. The covering of the canopy was crimson velvet with heavy fringe of gold. The steps to the platform were flanked by a handsome marble balustrading, and two columns of the same material stood at the entrance, one on either hand, the whole presenting a very striking and handsome appearance. The weather during the afternoon was very unfavourable and compelled many people who were seated within the quadrangle, which was badly protected overhead from the rain, to give up their seats and seek for shelter in the surrounding galleries. The ceremony was fixed to commence at a quarter past four o'clock, but at that hour a message was sent to Government House by the managers of the Exhibition to ask 'for a delay of half an hour as the rain had somewhat delayed the completion of the arrangements. On His Excellency's arrival a procession was formed at the entrance of the building and proceeded in the following order to the dais within the quadrangle :—

Two Aides-de-Camp.

H. R. H. the Duchess of Connaught.	H. E. the Marchioness of Ripon.
Viscountess Downe.	Lady Clough-Taylor.

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Two Aides-de-Camp.

Colonel Trevor, | Mr. Joubert.

The Executive Committee.

Viscount Downe. | Lord W. Beresford.

Personal Staffs of the Viceroy and the Duke
of Connaught.

H. R. H. the Duke of | H. E. the Viceroy.
Connaught. |

H. E. the Governor of Bombay and Staff.

Commissioner of Police.

The proceedings were opened by a choir, situated in one of the galleries, singing a cantata composed specially for the occasion. At the conclusion of the cantata the Bishop of Calcutta offered up a prayer, after which Colonel Trevor, Vice-President of the Executive Committee, read an address on the origin and progress of the Exhibition, and concluded by requesting the Viceroy to declare the Exhibition open. His Excellency then rose and spoke as follows:—]

May it please Your Royal Highness, Colonel Trevor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Before I proceed to discharge the duty which Colonel Trevor has just asked me to undertake, and to declare this Exhibition open, in accordance with the usual custom upon such occasions, and with the provisions contained in the programme of to-day's proceedings, I desire to make a few observations in connection with the present Exhibition.

You might naturally have expected that I should have commenced those observations by congratulations, but the closing remarks which have fallen from Colonel Trevor fill my mind with a subject not of congratulation, but of deep regret, and I cannot pass away to other and more pleasing topics without, in the first instance, expressing that which I am confident will be the unanimous feeling of every one who is here assembled, the heart-felt regret which, one and all, we entertain for the enforced absence of the Lieutenant-Governor. (*Hear, hear.*) You who know Mr. Rivers Thompson's devotion to his public duties need no assurance from me, that it is nothing but the imperative order of his medical adviser which has induced

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him to abstain from being here to-day, and I am sure that, like myself, you would have deeply regretted if he had come here at any risk to his valuable health, in order to be with us. (*Hear, hear.*)

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I will now offer you my congratulations upon the completion of the undertaking of this Exhibition, which was commenced less than twelve months ago. It is not yet quite a year since the Lieutenant-Governor first sought the sanction of the Government of India to the establishment of an International Exhibition in this city. That sanction was readily granted, and when we consider the magnitude and the many difficulties of the work, we may congratulate ourselves and thank those who have been actively engaged in carrying that work out, that they have been able to bring it, if not to absolute completion, yet to such a state of completeness as has enabled it to be opened upon the very day which was fixed last December. When, twelve months ago, I was invited by the Lieutenant-Governor to perform the opening ceremony to-day, I had no hesitation in at once accepting the invitation, because I felt that few duties could be more appropriately allotted to one who has the honour to fill the position of Her Majesty's representative in this country, than that of opening an International Exhibition. For I need not remind you of the deep interest which Her Majesty has always felt in undertakings of this kind in any part of the world.

The first conception of these Exhibitions—a wise and fruitful conception—emanated from the sagacious mind of the late Prince Consort, and therefore you can all easily understand with what interest Her Majesty has followed the history of every successive Exhibition which has grown out of that famous triumph which His Royal Highness accomplished in 1851.

Ladies and Gentlemen—It appears that I judged rightly in thus interpreting Her Majesty's sentiments, for since I

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came into this hall, with that special fitness and opportuneness which marks every act of the Queen-Empress, there has been put into my hand, while Colonel Trevor was reading his report, the following telegram from Her Majesty: "My best wishes for the success of the Calcutta Exhibition." (*Loud cheers.*)

Again, ladies and gentlemen, I must congratulate you heartily upon the presence, on this occasion, of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. (*Loud cheers.*) When I ventured to send an invitation to His Royal Highness, asking that he and his illustrious Consort would be present here to-day, I had no doubt of the reception which that invitation would meet. Their Royal Highnesses were graciously pleased to accept it at once, and thus to mark their deep interest in the undertaking in which you are engaged,—an interest, Sir, which, in the case of Your Royal Highness, may be justly called an hereditary interest. (*Cheers.*)

And now, ladies and gentlemen, it would be most ungrateful, in the discharge of the duty in which I am engaged on this occasion, if I were not to say some words of earnest thanks to those who have laboured to accomplish the results which we are assembled here to witness. And first and foremost among them your thanks, as you well know, are due to your Lieutenant-Governor, my friend Mr. Rivers Thompson. (*Cheers.*) I should be the last person to wish to depreciate the labours of others who have worked for this important end, but I know well the deep interest which Mr. Thompson has felt in this matter from the very commencement—the energy with which he has devoted himself to accomplish the undertaking,—and I venture to say that if it had not been for his hearty support and untiring energy, you would not have had an International Exhibition in Calcutta in 1883. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*)

There is another gentleman to whom our thanks are

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also due, who occupies, in respect to this Exhibition, a somewhat peculiar position—I mean Mr. Jules Joubert. (*Hear, hear.*) Mr. Joubert will excuse me, I am confident, if I frankly tell him that when first I heard that it was proposed that a private gentleman, on his own responsibility, should undertake the main burden and charge of getting up an International Exhibition in Calcutta, I was filled with considerable surprise. The idea was to me a novel one. I was not then aware of what had been done in the same way by Mr. Joubert in other quarters of Her Majesty's dominions, and my first feeling was one, as I have said, of surprise. But Mr. Rivers Thompson assured me that he had looked carefully into the matter, and that he believed that Mr. Joubert was both willing and able to carry out the work he desired to do. Satisfied by these assurances, and by the evidence of previous, though not altogether unvaried, successes which had attended his efforts, my doubts were removed, and the sanction of the Government of India was given to the undertaking. Well, ladies and gentlemen, you see how that undertaking has been accomplished. You see what Mr. Joubert has done, and I think you will agree with me that our thanks are due to him for the zeal and energy with which he has laboured for this end. (*Hear, hear.*) But while we thank Mr. Joubert, we must recollect that he could not have accomplished that which he has done, unless he had had the untiring assistance and the zealous aid of the Executive Committee who have been conducting these operations. (*Hear, hear.*) Mr. Joubert agrees with me, I see, in that estimate of their services. The members of that Committee, official and non-official, have worked hard and done their duty well, but none of them, I think, will question the statement that I make when I say that foremost among them all your thanks are due to Colonel Trevor—(*cheers*)—for the tact, the zeal, and the patience with which he has guided their operations. (*Cheers.*) I

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understand from the Lieutenant-Governor that he has had to contend with great difficulties, and not a few temporary disappointments, and here, in what has been accomplished, we see the result of the spirit in which he has laboured. (*Cheers.*)

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I will not detain you much longer, for when I come to speak of the character of this Exhibition, I feel a certain difficulty in expressing an opinion about it, because up to the present time I have not seen it. I should have liked very much to have had a private view of the Exhibition before to-day, so that I might have been able to give an opinion from personal knowledge of its contents, but I have abstained from asking for such a private view, because I found how much remained to be done within the last few days, and I was most anxious not to interrupt in any way the unceasing labours which have been necessary to accomplish that which has been actually effected. I can, therefore, only speak from hearsay and from the opinion of others, but I believe that I am right in saying that the Indian portion of this Exhibition is of a very satisfactory and interesting character, and that it will afford to Your Royal Highnesses and to other visitors from Europe, from the Australian Colonies, from America, and other parts of the world, a very fair sample of the arts, manufactures, and products of this great portion of Her Majesty's dominions, and I am quite sure that it will be a great advantage both to India and to other countries that her resources and her means should be more widely and better known than at present is often the case.

I understand also, and I rejoice very much at it, that the Australian portion of this Exhibition is extensive and full of interest. I also understand that we have present amongst us in this city a considerable number of gentlemen from the Australian Colonies, and that more are expected to follow in their wake, and I am sure that one and all here present will join with me in offering to them a

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hearty welcome. (*Loud cheers.*) It has been said in the report that the Lieutenant-Governor feels very strongly the possibility and the great importance of developing the trade between this country and Australia. In that opinion I heartily concur. I believe that there is a great future before the trade of India and Australia, and I have no doubt that if this Exhibition furthers the development of that trade, that result alone will be amply sufficient to justify and reward the labours of those who have carried out this undertaking. (*Cheers.*) Speaking a short time ago in England, His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales stated that he intended to establish, in 1886, a British Colonial Exhibition, and that he hoped that India would be well represented there. I hope so too. I trust that India will be represented there even better than she is represented here, so that all Her Majesty's Colonies may see what are her resources, and may know what is the nature of the trade which we carry on with other countries.

There is one other remark which I desire to make before coming to a conclusion. I know that it was the intention of Mr. Rivers Thompson to express a hope, which he very strongly entertained, that this Exhibition might not be altogether of a temporary character, but that from it might spring up a more permanent memorial, and he has told me that he thought that memorial might most fittingly take the shape of a National Gallery and a School of Art. I will not enter upon that subject now, except to say that I earnestly hope that the wishes of the Lieutenant-Governor in this respect may be accomplished. (*Hear, hear.*)

Ladies and Gentlemen,—I need not detain you by any arguments to show the value of Exhibitions of this kind. When the great Exhibition of 1851 was proposed by the Prince Consort, the idea was at first met with much opposition and with many prophecies of evil, and when it had become an accomplished fact and a complete and triumphant success, there were not a few who indulged in exag-

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gerated dreams of the results of Exhibitions of this kind. But that illustrious Prince, with the calm wisdom and deliberate judgment which characterised him, while he never doubted of the success of the undertaking, was never led into an over-enthusiastic estimate of its effects, and I cannot better conclude what I have to say to-night than by repeating with Your Royal Highness's permission to those who are assembled here, if the fading light will allow me to do so, the well-chosen words addressed by the Prince Consort to a great meeting in the Mansion House of London in connection with the Exhibition of 1851—words which embodied his hopes and his expectations, and which described what was, in his idea, the aim and object of an International Exhibition.

His Royal Highness said: "I confidently hope that the first impression which the view of this vast collection will produce upon the spectator will be that of deep thankfulness to the Almighty for the blessings which He has bestowed upon us already here below, and the second the conviction that they can only be realised in proportion to the help which we are prepared to render each other therefor, only by peace, love, and assistance, not only between individuals, but between the natives of the earth."

I can add nothing to these words, and with them I declare the Exhibition to be open.

[At the conclusion of His Excellency's address, the buildings were simultaneously and effectively lighted up by electric light, and the procession having been re-formed, advanced to the Central Transept, where the Foreign and Colonial delegates and representatives of the British and Foreign exhibitors were presented to the Viceroy. The procession then moved to the Indian Court, where the representatives of the several Indian provinces were also presented, and afterwards proceeded through the Machinery Court to the gate near the Mayo statue, whence the Viceroy took his departure.]

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE AMENDMENT BILL.

7th Dec. 1883.

[In the Legislative Council held at Government House, Calcutta, on Friday, the 7th of December 1883, the Viceroy made a statement with regard to the action of the Government of India in respect to the Bill for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code. His Excellency said :—]

I would now ask the Members of this Council to remain for a short time while I make a statement upon the important subject of the Bill which is now before the Council, for the amendment of the Criminal Procedure Code. The course which I am taking upon this occasion is, no doubt, not provided for by the Rules of Business of this Council, but it is not without precedent, and it cannot be doubted that it is advantageous, upon special occasions, that the Viceroy should reserve to himself the right to make, upon behalf of the Government, a statement in this Council, although no question is technically before it, in reference to a matter of great public interest. And I am the more justified, as it seems to me, in taking this somewhat unusual course, because I have observed that complaints have been made in many quarters of the silence of the Government during the last two months upon the question to which I am about to refer, and that it has been said that they ought, before this, to have given some explanation to the public of the steps which they had been taking in regard to this matter. I, and I am sure all my colleagues, greatly regret that it should have been thought by any one that the Government of India have in any respect acted with a want of consideration for the feelings of the opponents of this measure, or with any want of courtesy to those who have addressed representations to the Government upon the subject. I can truly say that nothing could be further from our intention than any such want of courtesy or of consideration, and I hope I may be pardoned for saying that nothing could be further from my personal character and disposition than to treat those who are opposed to

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me on any public measure with any want of courtesy or consideration.

The statement which I am now about to make will show, as it seems to me, conclusively, that this is the case in regard to the complaint of which I have just spoken, because that statement will establish clearly that the Government were not, until within the last few days, in a position to make any public declaration whatever on any part of their proceedings in reference to this matter. And even now what I have to say may be looked upon as somewhat premature, and must, in some respects, be incomplete, because in the absence of two important Members of the Executive Council, who have not yet arrived in Calcutta—His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and General Wilson, without whose presence various matters connected with the measure itself, and the mode of proceeding in regard to it, ought not to be determined by the Government—I am not yet, on some points, in a position to say more than that these points have still to be considered by the Executive Council. But nevertheless, under the circumstances to which I have adverted, I have thought it right not to delay to state to this Council, at its first meeting here in Calcutta, what has been the action of the Government in regard to this Bill since the conclusion of the sittings of the Legislative Council in this city last March. But as there is no question before the Council at this moment, and as, therefore, this is not the occasion for discussion, I feel bound to abstain from anything like controversy, or even argument, and to confine myself for the present as much as possible to a bare statement of facts.

It will be in the recollection of all the Members of this Council that the last step which was taken with respect to this Bill on the 9th of March last was to order that it should be referred, in the usual manner, to the Local Governments for their consideration and report. That reference was duly made, and in course of time the opinions of the Local

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Governments began to come in. As they came in, they were, of course, each of them, carefully examined by the Members of the Government. The last of these reports of Local Governments reached Simla on the 24th of July, and the Government then lost no time in carefully and deliberately considering the course which they thought ought to be pursued with respect to this measure, after the examination of the various opinions which had been offered upon it, and they were in a position to address the Secretary of State upon the subject on the 10th of August last.

I do not think that any one will say, looking to the great importance of this question and the necessity of proceeding with all due deliberation in regard to it, that any time was lost by the Government if, having received the last of the opinions of Local Governments on the 24th July, they were ready to lay their views before the Secretary of State in a Despatch which left Simla on the 10th of August following.

In that Despatch the Government of India, while expressing their opinion that the principles and policy upon which the Bill is founded ought not to be abandoned, proposed certain modifications of the measure calculated, as they hoped and believed, to remove objections which had been urged against some of its proposals upon grounds which did not raise the question of principle. These modifications were the following: They proposed that the jurisdiction to be conferred by the Bill upon Native Magistrates over European British subjects should be confined to District Magistrates and Sessions Judges *ex officio*. They proposed to leave unchanged the present powers of the Local Governments with respect to the appointment of Justices of the Peace, and they also proposed to adopt a suggestion of Sir Charles Turner, the Chief Justice of Madras, for amending Section 526 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. That section enacts that "whenever it is made to appear that a fair and impartial enquiry

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cannot be had in any Criminal Court, or that some question of law of unusual difficulty is likely to arise," the High Court may transfer a case to another Court or to itself. Sir Charles Turner suggested that the High Court should be authorised to make the transfer in any case in which it should be made to appear that "it was expedient for the ends of justice," and that it would be desirable to supply what appeared to be a defect in the section by directing that in any case in which, before the commencement of the hearing, the Government, the complainant, or the accused should notify to the Court an intention to make an application for transfer, the Court should adjourn the hearing for such reasonable time as might be required to enable an application to be made and an order obtained upon it.

These were the modifications which were suggested in our Despatch of the 10th August to the Secretary of State. I, in accordance with what I have said just now, shall not, upon the present occasion, enter into any arguments on these points. Whenever an opportunity for debate arrives, the Government will be quite ready to state the grounds upon which they suggested those modifications, and the views which they entertain in respect to the effect which they will have upon the provisions of the Bill.

That, in brief, was the nature of the proposals contained in the Despatch. To make this statement complete, I ought to say that our honourable friend and colleague, General Wilson, in regard to this Despatch as to the former one, maintained the position which he had previously taken up of objecting to the measure altogether. The Despatch, as I have said, went home on the 10th of August; it was considered by Her Majesty's Government at home and by the Secretary of State in Council, and in a reply, dated the 8th of November last, the Secretary of State in Council expressed his concurrence in the proposals of the Government of India. That reply reached Calcutta last Saturday,

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the 1st of December, and this, consequently, is the earliest opportunity which has been afforded to me since that Despatch came into the hands of the Government for making any statement with regard to this matter.

There is also another question, connected not with the substance of this measure, but with the manner of proceeding with it, to which I wish to refer on this the earliest opportunity. In the month of September last, the Government received a memorial from the Anglo-Indian Defence Association, which contained two requests. The first was that the papers which had been received from the Local Governments in connection with this Bill should be published at once, and the second was that further proceedings with regard to the Bill should be stayed until Parliament had had an opportunity of considering the Bill and expressing its opinion upon it. In the reply which was sent to that memorial, the memorialists were informed that their first request had already been complied with, and that the papers relating to the matter had been published in the *Gazette*, where they appeared, I think, on the 8th of September; they were published at the earliest moment possible. We only waited until we had ascertained that the Despatch we had sent home was in the hands of the Secretary of State, and until we were informed that he had no objection to the publication of the papers. The second request of the memorialists, namely, that any further proceedings with regard to the Bill should be put off until Parliament had had an opportunity of discussing the question and of pronouncing an opinion upon it, related to a matter which was essentially and entirely in the hands of Her Majesty's Government. Any question concerning proceedings in Parliament necessarily can only be determined by the Government at home. Such questions are altogether beyond the scope of the Government of India, and the Cabinet alone can decide what course should be taken upon any matter involving the proceedings of either House of Parliament.

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The memorial was forwarded by the next mail after it had been received to the Secretary of State, and his opinion on the question of postponement was asked by the Government of India, who only said that the question, in their judgment, ought to be settled one way or the other, before the end of the next sittings of the Legislative Council in Calcutta. In the same Despatch in which the Secretary of State replied to our general proposals he replied also to that particular request of the Anglo-Indian Defence Association, and he informed us that Her Majesty's Government do not see any good reason why a measure which lies entirely within the competence of this Legislative Council, and is already before that body, should be postponed till Parliament meets, and they conclude, therefore, that the Bill will be taken up in the ordinary course of business, so that it may be disposed of during the usual session of the Legislative Council at Calcutta.

I stated in the debate on the 9th March last, as my personal opinion, that if the opponents of the Bill desired to appeal to the House of Commons, I should be the last person to object to such a course. I entertain the same feeling still, and I have made no concealment of it. It will be observed that the Secretary of State in his reply leaves a certain discretion to the Government of India as to the mode of proceeding with regard to this Bill within well-defined limits. I am not yet in a position, in consequence of the absence of the two Members of the Executive Council to whom I have referred just now, to say exactly when the next step with regard to this Bill will be taken. It is a subject which will be considered shortly by that Council. The next step, in the ordinary course of business, will be the reference of the Bill to a Select Committee, who will consider the Bill and any amendments which may be proposed in it, and due notice will, of course, be given to honourable Members of this Council before any motion to refer the Bill to a Select Committee is brought before them.

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Such is the statement which I desire to make as to the action of the Government of India in respect to this Bill since March last. It shows clearly, as it seems to me, that until last Saturday, when the Despatch from the Secretary of State reached Calcutta, the Government here was not in a position to make any public declaration on the subject. The question was one which was originally referred to the Secretary of State, and the proposed proceedings of the Government of India received his sanction. It was one which, from the circumstances of the case, could not be dealt with by the Government of India, except in consultation with Her Majesty's Government, and one of the points—that relating to the proposal to postpone the Bill until after the meeting of Parliament—was wholly within the province of Her Majesty's Government at home, and could only be decided by them. Until, therefore, we were in possession of the views of Her Majesty's Government, we were debarred altogether from saying anything in public on the subject. I have, however, seen it said that when Her Majesty's Government at home determined on the course which they were going to take, and the answer which they proposed to send, that course might have been communicated to the Government of India by telegram, and that after having received that telegram, the Government of India might have made a statement to the public. Now it appears to me, first, that it would have been inconsistent with ordinary practice, and with official propriety, to make a public statement of this kind upon a telegram, unless Her Majesty's Government had directed that we should do so. But further than that, I cannot think it would have been at all safe for the Government of India to have made any such statement upon a telegraphic communication. Suppose that that had been done, and suppose that when the Despatch came, and had been made known to the public, it had been possible to say that there was any inconsistency between the statement made upon the telegraphic communication

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and the precise words of the Despatch from the Secretary of State, I leave it to the Members of this Council to consider whether that would not have produced a result very far from desirable.

It seems to me that it was absolutely necessary that I should be in a position to do what I have done to-day, namely, to use the precise language of the Secretary of State in explaining his views. Until the words in which those views were expressed were in my possession, I could not, with any discretion, have spoken in public upon the subject. Then I must also say that it appears to me that the proper place to make the first public declaration upon any proceedings connected with a measure which is before this Legislative Council is in this Legislative Council itself. I think that Members of Council might have complained perhaps if I, as the President of this Council, had made any such statement elsewhere. I am sure that most legislative bodies would undoubtedly have felt that in such a case some kind of slight had been cast upon them, although I have such confidence in the good feeling of the members of this body that I believe that if I had been in a position to make such a statement, and had thought it right in the interest of the public to do so some weeks ago, and at a time when this Council was not sitting, they would have overlooked any apparent discourtesy which might have been involved in such a course, and, if an opportunity had been afforded me, I should probably not have hesitated to avail myself of it. But, as I have said before, the information was not in my possession until last Saturday, and this is the first public occasion on which a statement of that kind could have been made.

I will say no more now. The immediate occasion is not, as I have said, one which admits of the introduction of any controversial matter; but I cannot conclude these few remarks without repeating that those who think that I or my colleagues have felt a cold indifference to the representa-

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tions of those who are opposed to this Bill are entirely in error. The silence we have maintained till now has, as I have shown, been a necessary silence. Now that I have spoken, I earnestly trust that no word which has fallen from me will tend to add to the bitterness of the present controversy.

4th Jan. 1884.

The Legislative Council met at Government House, Calcutta, on Friday morning, the 4th January, after the adjournment for the holidays. Much interest had been excited by the announcement that Mr. Ilbert would move for the reference of the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill to a Select Committee, and nearly two hundred ladies and gentlemen, amongst whom was the Nizam of Hyderabad and a number of the leading natives of Calcutta, assembled in the Council Chamber to watch the proceedings. Mr. Rivers Thompson, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, who had been seriously ill, was present in the Council for the first time after a long absence. In moving that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee with instructions to report in a week, Mr. Ilbert spoke at great length in explanation of the original Bill and in general defence of the measure. He was followed by Messrs Hunter, Amcer Ali, Miller, Gibbon, and Baboo Kristodas Pal. Mr. Miller in the course of his speech remarked that he "would do nothing to bar a settlement of the question since it has arisen, and if it were possible now to refer the Bill to a Select Committee on a clear understanding of the principles on which the question is to be settled, I should be willing to support that course, leaving details to be settled in Committee, but I would state in the clearest manner possible, that if there is, as I fear there is, reason to believe there is any double meaning possible in the terms of the settlement which have been announced to the public, the difficulties which have been encountered will be ten-fold increased, and I cannot support the motion that the Select Committee be directed to report in a week, unless the clearest agreement has been come to."

Mr. Gibbon spoke somewhat in the same sense, urging that further time was required to consider the provisions of the measure more carefully than he and others had as yet been able to consider them.

On the Council re-assembling after luncheon, Mr. Evans, referring to Mr. Miller's remarks, suggested to His Excellency the advisability

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of adjourning the debate. Personally, he said, he did not consider the point one of primary importance, but he did not like to form a hasty opinion upon it, and it would be desirable, he thought, to consult the leaders of the European community. His Excellency the President said :—]

I feel some hesitation in complying with the proposal which has been made by my honourable and learned friend, because the effect of that proposal will be to shut myself, and those of my honourable colleagues who may desire to speak on this occasion, out of the debate until the day to which the Council may be adjourned. I am always, however, most anxious to treat every member of this Council with the utmost consideration and courtesy. My honourable and learned friend says that he has not had time to consider a question which has arisen while he has been absent from Calcutta. Under these circumstances it seems to me that I should not be justified, in courtesy to my honourable and learned friend, in asking him to address the Council at the present moment, but in agreeing now to an adjournment of the Council I do so without prejudice, without in any way committing myself with regard to the point to which Mr. Evans has alluded. I agree, therefore, to the adjournment of the debate till Monday next at half past 11.

[The Council was accordingly adjourned till Monday, the 7th January.]

[The Legislative Council assembled again on the 7th January to resume the debate on the motion to refer the Criminal Procedure Code Amendment Bill, as amended, to a Select Committee. As on the previous day a large number of the public were present.

Mr. Evans, after the Viceroy had taken the Chair, began his speech by saying that the point on which he had asked His Lordship to adjourn the Council last Friday having been cleared up, and no misapprehension now existing, they hoped that the arrangement as it now stood would have the effect of putting an end to the controversy. Had it been proposed to proceed with the Bill as first amended, without

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the settlement which had since been arrived at, he should have felt bound to oppose its reference to the Select Committee. After referring to the serious character of the opposition which the introduction of the Bill had aroused, Mr. Evans said that he and many others had hoped that the Government, on the receipt of the opinions of Local Governments and of their most experienced officers, would have withdrawn the Bill, and he still held that that would have been the wisest course. Mr. Evans then proceeded briefly to review the events connected with the Bill during the past few months, the agitation to which it gave rise, and the settlement ultimately come to with the European community on the subject, and went on to say that no one rejoiced more than he that that settlement had been brought about, and no one wished more heartily that it might speedily be carried through in order that controversy might at once cease. All that now remained was for the Select Committee to frame the necessary clauses, and he did not think any difficulty ought to arise in carrying out that work and in reporting on Friday week. He hoped the controversy would now end, for he had all along felt sure that the object the Viceroy had in view was the good of the country, and he had never doubted that if His Excellency had known the real and serious repugnance of the European community to be tried by others than their countrymen, he would never have introduced this Bill. Mr. Evans then proceeded to criticise at some length various points raised in Mr. Ilbert's speech of the Friday previous.

Mr. Thomas, in a somewhat rambling speech, said he had seen no reason to change the views which he held last March, and he still believed the Government would show most manliness by withdrawing the Bill altogether. The honourable Member entered upon rather a controversial disquisition which contained nothing that was new, and was considered not altogether judicious in some of his remarks. In the course of his speech he dwelt very strongly upon the uneasiness that had been aroused among the non-official community by Mr. Ilbert's hints about the finality of the present legislation, and accused Mr. Ilbert of a desire to reopen controversy and embitter discussion.

Sir Auckland Colvin, in a speech which was listened to with the greatest attention, denied that Mr. Ilbert's speech was in any way calculated to keep open the controversy on the Bill. The Government, he said, were most anxious to effect a settlement. The cardinal point of the Bill, as advanced by Government, was the removal from the statute book of the absolute disability under which natives of this country had rested of exercising under any circumstances criminal

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jurisdiction over European British subjects. That principle had been maintained, and carefully maintained, throughout, at the same time that certain safeguards had been granted to those subjects who had thought their personal safety endangered. As the Government was making a new departure, it was natural and reasonable that the European British subject should think of his safeguards and ask the Government to grant all that seemed necessary. Sir Auckland Colvin said that he did not believe there would be any prejudice of justice by the jury system, or that any great administrative difficulty would arise. He concluded his speech by answering certain vague objections in Babu Kristodas Pal's speech of the previous day advising natives who were always harping upon anomalies to divest themselves of anomalies peculiar to themselves before turning their attention to those peculiar to others.

The Lieutenant-Governor (Mr. Rivers Thompson) wished particularly to express his congratulations to the Government, and the gratification which he himself felt in the hope that the settlement which had been effected in regard to the Bill was likely to end the controversy. If the Bill stood on its original basis, or if it went up to the Select Committee without the proviso and the safeguards which the negotiations of the past few days had brought about, he could not have agreed to its reference to a Select Committee. But, when the Government had come forward with a proposal, which had very much modified the form in which the Bill was originally framed, and when they had, in addition to that, agreed to the insertion of a proviso, which gave satisfaction to the non-official Europeans in the country generally, he did not think any one would be justified—certainly he should not in his position be justified—in withholding his support to the vote that the Bill should be referred to a Select Committee. The system of jury trial in magisterial courts was, he said, a positive novelty in India. It revolutionized completely our Criminal Procedure; but he thought that the Bill would practically be a dead-letter in Bengal from the time of its publication. It was a great thing, to his mind, that the present law was not changed; and that the Joint Magistrate of the district, and other European officers who had criminal jurisdiction over Europeans, could take up cases against Europeans. Experience proved that the Magistrate and Collector of the district, the gentlemen on whom they were now conferring these powers, hardly ever took up criminal cases. As a rule, the whole of the criminal administration fell into the hands of the Joint Magistrate. In 1882, out of the whole of the criminal cases, a very small proportion—about 7—came before the Magistrate and Collector of the district; there were 45 or 46 districts in Bengal. Government had, at the present

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time, to provide for two; native gentlemen. It would be almost impossible to realise the chance of any case of a criminal nature coming before either; more especially as the Government would take care that no native would be appointed a Magistrate of a district where there was not a European Joint Magistrate. Mr. Thompson concluded by saying that had the Bill been originally introduced in the form in which it was now proposed to pass it, he did not believe any hesitation would have been felt in accepting it.

Sir Donald Stewart (the Commander-in-Chief) said that he wished to reaffirm what he had stated in the first instance; namely, that he entirely agreed in the principle of the Bill, and was glad it was to be proceeded with. He denied that the India Council at home had warned the Government of India, through the Secretary of State, of the danger of introducing the Bill, as was supposed by Mr. Evans. The late Secretary of State had declared publicly that the members of his Council were unanimously in favour of the principles of the measure, and that not one of them made any objection to the Despatch which was addressed to the Government of India, in view of the Bill being proceeded with in the form in which it was now proposed. He denied that communications, official or non-official, public or private, had reached the Government of India from the Council of the Secretary of State, warning them of the danger of introducing the Bill.

The Council here adjourned for luncheon, and on its return His Excellency the President spoke as follows:—]

I am glad that the time has at length arrived when it will be possible for me to express more fully than I have hitherto done the views which I entertain in respect to the measure which we are now considering. I may, I fear, have to make a somewhat large demand upon your patience, but I trust that you will accord to me the indulgence which the importance of the subject demands.

On the 7th of December last, at the first meeting of the Council after the Government returned to Calcutta, I explained the modifications which we had submitted to the Secretary of State, and which had been approved by him. Upon that occasion I purposely abstained from anything in the nature of argument, and gave to the Council a bare statement of facts. I must now enlarge and supplement

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that statement, and explain what course the Government has taken, and the grounds on which they have taken it. In doing so, however, I do not propose to go over again the ground which I traversed in my speech on the 9th of March last year. I then explained how the question with which we are now dealing was raised in 1882, and I need not touch again upon that point. We were bound, as we considered, to answer the questions put to us at that time, and we could only do so in accordance with the established policy of the Crown and Parliament, upon which I shall have something to say before I conclude. We might perhaps, while admitting the claim put forward at that time, have tried to postpone the period for its practical acknowledgment, but I explained, in March last, my reasons for thinking that it was wiser to deal with the subject at once, and I have nothing now to add on that point to what I then said. The Bill was therefore introduced, and the first question to which I desire to address myself, is the consideration of what was the principle of the measure. That principle is stated in the statement of Objects and Reasons which was published at the same time as the Bill, and in that statement I find the principle of the Bill declared to be "to remove from the Code at once and completely every judicial disqualification which is based merely on race distinctions." My honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans has contended, I know, that the fact that under the Act of 1872 a native Magistrate is precluded from exercising jurisdiction over a European British subject does not constitute a disqualification to hold the office, but it does constitute a disqualification to discharge some of the duties of the office, and to remove that disqualification was the object of the Bill introduced last February. I quite admit that we have not been able, for reasons which I shall give before long, to apply this principle to the full extent which we first intended, and which was covered by the words "at once and completely."

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But to the principle of removing these disqualifications, as far as present circumstances would admit, we have always steadily adhered. Such, then, being the declared principle of the Bill—to remove judicial disqualifications based merely on race distinctions—I now come to review as briefly as I may the circumstances which have taken place since last March. It will be in everybody's recollection that from the commencement of the controversy, which was created by the introduction of this Bill, the opposition has been to the principle of the Bill, and the policy upon which it is founded. In many writings, and in not a few speeches, I have observed that some of the most fundamental principles of just and righteous government have been ridiculed and denounced; it would be unjust to hold the opponents of this Bill responsible for the language of some of their number, but at the same time, the existence of such sentiments and their public avowal is a circumstance which the Government, in considering how to deal with this question, could not overlook. The one demand made upon the Government from February to December was that the Bill should be withdrawn, and the theory put forward was that an Englishman had an inalienable right to be tried on criminal charges by European British Magistrates and Judges. It is now said that that claim meant that he should be tried by a mixed jury, but that view of this matter never was put forward until now, and the claim made was distinctly made in the form and words which I have just read. No doubt it was sometimes said that the claim to be tried only by a European was a claim to be tried by a man's peers, and anybody who has any acquaintance with the meaning of that expression is, of course, aware that it does not relate in the smallest degree to the race of the Judge before whom the person charged with an offence may be brought. Trial by peers refers to jury trials and not to the race of the Judge presiding over the court before which the accused person is brought

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up for trial. My honourable and learned friend, hoping doubtless to get a rise out of me, alluded jocosely to the fact that I was a peer, and could only be tried, if I chose to claim the right, by the House of Lords. Well, I can only say that if I were to commit a felony—and I can assure my honourable and learned friend that I have no present intention of doing so—I should certainly not claim to be tried by that illustrious body. And then my honourable and learned friend says, supposing that by the law in England only Judges who were peers could try peers, would such a law be considered to imply any disrespect to other Judges or to cast a slur upon them? I venture to think that it is highly probable that if Lord Coleridge was the only Judge that could try a peer, his colleagues on the bench would be likely to think that an invidious distinction; but I will tell my honourable friend one thing, of which I am perfectly sure, and that is that if such a system were to be by some extraordinary process set up in England, the people of England would not endure it for a single week.

That therefore was the fundamental principle of the Bill, and the policy on which it was founded, and consequently when the Government came to consider last August, after the various reports of the Local Governments had come in, the course which they should take with regard to the Bill, they held that they were bound to uphold the policy and to maintain the principle thus distinctly impugned. I said, in March last, that to arguments which were inconsistent with the declared policy of the Crown and of Parliament it would be contrary to my duty to listen. To this declaration the Government, last August, determined to adhere. We decided, therefore, not to withdraw the Bill, and having come to this decision we had then to consider two questions: to what extent the principle of the Bill should be applied, and whether we could offer any additional securities to Europeans against any possible

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miscarriage of justice. In considering the extent to which the Bill was to be applied, we took note that a considerable misapprehension appeared to exist as to what was the real scope of the original Bill—a misapprehension which seemed to me not to be altogether absent from the mind of my honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans to-day. But in order to show what the scope of the Bill was, I cannot do better than refer to the language which was used in the debate of the 9th March last by my honourable friend Sir Steuart Bayley. On that occasion Sir Steuart Bayley used the following words:—

“The aspect in which I have all along regarded the Bill is that its main and important object, its substantive principle in fact, is to allow Native Civilians who may rise to be Sessions Judges or District Magistrates to exercise the powers which the law vests in Sessions Judges and District Magistrates as such, and that they should not be disqualified from exercising those powers on the score of birth, place, or nationality. The other or permissive provisions in regard to Assistant Commissioners and Magistrates of the first class, I understand to be an adjunct to the main principle of the Bill, a fringe or margin as it were, and intended only to meet special cases, which the Local Government might otherwise be at a loss to provide for without serious inconvenience.”

That is not a description of the Bill in its present condition, and after it has been amended and its scope reduced, but it is a description of the Bill given last March when it was before the Council in its original shape. When we came, therefore, to consider the question, we felt that what Sir Steuart Bayley called “the main and important object and substantive principle of the Bill,” stood upon a different footing from that which he described as a “fringe,” and it certainly seemed to me and others in the light of the controversy which had sprung up, and of the great dislike and fear of the extent of this Bill which were widely entertained, that those who were opposed to it might fairly ask that anything in the nature of a discretionary power vested in the Executive Government should

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be removed by the Bill. When we became aware of the strength of the feeling this question had originated, it seemed but a reasonable concession to make to those who entertained that feeling that there should be nothing in the measure of a discretionary nature, but that the Act to be passed should distinctly and clearly lay down what was the extent of the jurisdiction to be given. Besides that, as my honourable and learned friend Mr. Ilbert said, none of the Local Governments who were opposed to the withdrawal of the Bill, with the exception of the Government of the Punjab, appeared to desire to have this discretionary power conferred upon them. Under these circumstances we determined to withdraw this discretionary power—to give up what Sir Steuart Bayley called the “fringe.” It is quite true, as I have already intimated, that in so doing we became unable to apply the principle of the Bill to the full extent which we originally contemplated, but we upheld that principle in itself and gave almost as much practical effect to it as would have been given to it in the Bill as originally introduced. We therefore did not hesitate to remove from the measure everything in the nature of an executive discretion. We then came to consider a very important point and one which we have had always in view, and which has guided us very much in our recent action, namely, whether there were any additional securities beyond those which the present law afforded, which could be given to European British subjects against those miscarriages of justice which they appeared to fear, and we were of opinion that there was a suggestion made by that distinguished person, Sir Charles Turner, the Chief Justice of Madras, which would go a very considerable way in that direction, while at the same time it would effect a positive amendment of the law as it stands. In order to make perfectly clear the nature of Sir Charles Turner’s proposal, I would ask you—though the extract is a little long—to allow me to read to you what he said in the memorandum which he wrote in

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reference to the Bill. In the seventeenth paragraph of that memorandum he said :—

“In order to allay whatever apprehension is seriously entertained to the fitness of the officers on whom jurisdiction would be conferred, I have considered whether it might not be desirable to give to every European British subject the same option in respect of the presiding Judge or Magistrate as he at present enjoys to a qualified extent in respect of jurors and assessors. I have come to the conclusion that it would be unbecoming to the dignity of the judicial office that this option should rest with those who are subject to the jurisdiction; and that a safeguard reasonably sufficient might be provided by rendering more effectual a provision of the existing Code. The 526th section, Code of Criminal Procedure, enacts that whenever it is made to appear that a fair and impartial inquiry cannot be had in any Criminal Court, or that some question of law of unusual difficulty is likely to arise, the High Court may transfer a case to another Court or to itself. I would authorize the High Court to make the transfer if it is made to appear ‘that it is expedient for the ends of justice.’ And I would supply a defect in the Code of directing that in any case in which, prior to the commencement of the hearing, the Government, the complainant, or the accused shall notify to the Court its or his intention to make an application under section 526, the Court shall adjourn the hearing for such reasonable time as may be required to enable an application to be made and an order obtained thereon.”

That was, in Sir Charles Turner’s own words, the nature of his proposal, and those were the reasons which he gave in its favour. They appeared to us to be very good reasons, and the proposal commended itself to our judgment in a high degree, because it would enable a transfer to be made without casting upon the Magistrate, from whom the case was to be transferred, any such reflection as might seem to be involved in the statement necessary under one of the sub-sections of the present Code that “a fair and impartial inquiry cannot be had.” When a court has to say that, it might be thought to imply some distrust of the Magistrate trying the case, and therefore we considered that upon that ground among others it was desirable that the discretion of the High Court in this matter should be increased, that some such words as those suggested by Sir Charles Turner,

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namely, "that it is expedient for the ends of justice," should be introduced. Then it seemed only proper that when an application of this kind was made, the case before the Court below should be suspended for a reasonable time. Not to do that appeared to make the application almost a farce, and we very readily adopted this amendment as in itself desirable, and quite apart from anything relating to this particular Bill. The amendment would also be equally applicable to everyone, and not confined to any particular class of Her Majesty's subjects. These were the modifications which recommended themselves to the Council last August, and with these modifications the Bill was, as honourable members are already aware, sent home to the Secretary of State and was approved by him. This was the state of things when the Government re-assembled in Calcutta on the 1st of December. Up to that time none of the opponents of the Bill had approached the Government with any proposal whatever for its further modification, or for the granting of any additional securities to those who would be affected by it. As I have said, the one simple and unvaried demand had been that the Bill should be withdrawn. But when we arrived here in Calcutta my honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans, with that public spirit for which he is distinguished, intimated to the Government that he thought that he saw a further alteration of the measure which might be possible, and which might put an end to the controversy which had raged so long. My honourable and learned friend no doubt still maintained that the Bill had better be withdrawn, but he made a suggestion which I do not think he will object to my stating to this Council. That proposal was, that the sections of the Code which create the legal disqualification of native Magistrates to try European British subjects should be removed, but that every European British subject brought before a native Magistrate should be given the right to claim a transfer to a European Magistrate. I think that

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is a correct statement of the proposal of my honourable and learned friend. Any proposal coming from Mr. Evans naturally demanded the utmost consideration from Government. It was the first proposal of the kind which had reached our ears, and we consequently gave to it a most full and careful deliberation. It seemed, however, to us that it was a proposal which we could not accept, because it appeared to take away with one hand what it gave with the other. It gave the appearance of removing the legal disqualification, but it accompanied it with a right on the part of the accused person to set up that disqualification again by claiming to be tried by a Judge of his own race; and it also seemed to us to be objectionable, because it admitted distinctly the principle that a European British subject had a right to refuse to be tried by a native Magistrate or Judge; and lastly, we thought with Sir Charles Turner, as stated by him in the passage which I have read, that such an option on the part of the accused would be unbecoming to the dignity of the judicial office, and under these circumstances we felt ourselves obliged—I can truly say with great regret—to refuse to accept the proposal which my honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans, with the most friendly intention to both sides, had offered to our consideration.

But the fact that an important member of this Council, and a decided and undoubted opponent of this Bill, had proposed an arrangement to the Government which he thought might lead to a settlement of the difficulties which had arisen, raised at once for our consideration the question whether there was anything in the way of additional security which we could give to those who would be affected by this Bill without any sacrifice of principle, with a view to allay the fears which we knew to be largely entertained, and thus to enable the Bill to be passed with such a degree of general acquiescence as would prevent its being made even after it became law the battle-field of

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contending parties. It was our duty to take into serious consideration the chances of such a settlement which the opening made by Mr. Evans' proposal gave us, and we entered upon the examination of that subject with a very earnest desire to satisfy all that was just and reasonable in the wishes of those who objected to the measure, and to find if possible a mode by which we might, consistently with the principles we determined to uphold, arrive at a pacific solution of the question. The only proposal which seemed in any way to fulfil the conditions which I have described of being not contrary to the principle of the Bill, and yet one which might be accepted by those who were opposed to us, as giving them legitimate security, was one which had been made in the month of May by the Government of Bombay, and under which a right to claim a jury would be given to Europeans in serious cases, summary jurisdiction over Europeans being left as it is at present. The proposal was made by the Government of Bombay in their report upon the present Bill, and had been considered by the Government of India in August last, and I do not wish to deny that it had for me at that time an undoubted attraction, perhaps natural enough because having lived all my life in England I have an Englishman's feeling on the subject of a jury. It did not, however, at that time commend itself to the approval of the majority of my colleagues, and we had nothing before us whatever to lead us to suppose that if such a proposal had then been made by us it would have been accepted as a satisfactory settlement of the question by the opponents of the Bill, they having up to that time declined to accept any arrangement, except a complete withdrawal of the measure, and never having in any form or through any person approached us with anything in the nature of a proposal for a compromise or a modification of the Bill. Under these circumstances, a suggestion of this kind was made by my honourable colleague Sir Auckland Colvin, to my

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Honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans, and the upshot of what passed between them is stated in the words which I shall here read to the Council. The Government undertook "to agree in Select Committee on the basis of the modifications approved in the Secretary of State's despatch to the right being given to European British subjects, when brought for trial before a District Magistrate or Sessions Judge, to claim trial by jury, such as is provided for by section 451 of the Criminal Procedure Code, subject to the following conditions :—

"1. No distinction to be made between European and Native District Magistrates and Sessions Judges.

"2. Powers of District Magistrates under section 446 of the Code to be extended to imprisonment for six months or fine of two thousand rupees."

There was in this undertaking no sacrifice whatever of the principle of the Bill. It distinctly lays down as a condition of the acceptance by the Government of such a proposal in Select Committee, and the extended right to a jury trial that no distinction should be made between European and native District Magistrates and Sessions Judges. Both under the arrangement will be placed in all respects on the same footing. All judicial disqualifications of native Magistrates and Judges of those grades will be removed. Europeans will be liable to appear equally in their Courts, and will be dealt with by them precisely in the same manner. The principle of the Bill will thus be entirely maintained. This arrangement also gives no sanction to the theory to which I have already referred, that an Englishman possesses everywhere an inalienable right to be tried only before a Magistrate of his own race,—a right which, as my honourable friend Mr. Ilbert explained in his speech, is not recognised in other dominions of the British Crown—in Ceylon or in China for instance,—and which no Government since the passing of the Act of 1833, which distinctly contravenes any such claim, has ever been known to admit. But it was an arrangement which as it seems to me ought to be satisfactory to Englishmen in

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India, for it gives them in all serious cases a judicial security to which they are accustomed at home, which is peculiarly English in its character, and upon which they have been brought up to set a very high value. Mr. Kristodas Pal, however, urged, on Friday last, certain objections against this arrangement. He spoke of it in the first place as involving a reduction of the power of Magistrates, and seemed to think that some slur was cast upon a Magistrate if he was required to try a case with the assistance of a jury. I cannot with my English experience for a moment admit that such is the case. It is notorious that both in England and in India it is the higher Magistrates who try cases with a jury. Criminal trials before the High Courts of India are by jury. The higher Magistrates in England try by jury, and in the case of Justices of the Peace at home when they sit in the higher capacity of Justices in Quarter Sessions they try by juries, it being in their lower capacity in Petty Sessions that they try cases without them. To be required to try with a jury does not imply any diminution of the status of the Judge or Magistrate; indeed it rather implies the contrary, and, as a matter of fact, Mr. Kristodas Pal should remember that under the arrangement proposed in this agreement the powers of District Magistrates over European British subjects will be materially increased and not diminished. Again, Mr. Kristodas Pal spoke of the possibility of a failure of justice resulting from this system. Such a failure of justice would, undoubtedly, be an intolerable evil, but I need scarcely say that if I anticipated that this arrangement would result in any such failure of justice, I should never have been a party to it. I do not think that such fears are well founded. Of course if hereafter it should turn out that serious failures of justice or other grave evils arise out of the system about to be established, it will be the duty of the Government of the day to apply adequate remedies to those evils when they appear; but, as I have said, I do not anticipate that

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those evils will be created, and I have the utmost confidence that Local Governments and their officers will do all in their power when this Bill becomes law to secure the honest and effectual working of this extension of jury trials. This is the desire which I and my colleagues entertain, and I am sure that this course will be taken by all Local Governments throughout the country. Then Mr. Kristodas Pal said that numerous transfers to distant places will be necessary under this arrangement. My honourable and learned friend Mr. Evans, I think, made some remarks upon that point to-day. It does not seem to me probable that that will be the case. There is no intention of altering the present arrangement for the trial of petty cases by Magistrates below the rank of District Magistrates, or of adopting the suggestion of Mr. Gibbon the other day that a general right should be given to Europeans of trial by jury in all cases. Summary jurisdiction will remain as it is at present, and care will be taken not to render the jury system ridiculous, by applying it to every petty case. In all cases tried before a District Magistrate the right to claim a jury will be given, but it must be borne in mind, in reference to this question of frequent transfer, that those will almost invariably hereafter be cases for which the proper punishment is from 3 to 6 months, and which under the present law would have to be sent to the Sessions Judge, and therefore, though it should be found occasionally necessary to transfer those cases to some more distant officer, nothing more will occur than would occur now, when District Magistrates are debarred from dealing with such cases at all, and are obliged, under any circumstances, to transfer them to the Sessions Court. These are subjects, [however, which I have no doubt will engage the attention of Local Governments, and it will be their duty to do everything in their power to prevent anything in the nature of inconvenience to suitors.

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But there are aspects of this case looked at from the point of view of the native community upon which Mr. Kristodas Pal scarcely touched, and on which I desire to make a few observations, and at the outset I must say that if the proposed amendment had given to one class of Her Majesty's subjects a privilege from which the rest of those subjects were wholly debarred, and to which the law afforded them no means of ever attaining, the objections to it would have been very serious, but as honourable members are aware that is not the case. It must be remembered in the first place that the amendment, while it takes nothing away from the natives, gives to the Europeans in jury districts little or nothing which they do not now possess. As summary cases will in practice be disposed of by Justices of the Peace below the rank of District Magistrates, and as the cases which will be dealt with by District Magistrates will generally be those which will fall within the category of the more extended powers with which they are to be invested—cases which at the present time go to the Sessions Judge—the Europeans will in the great majority of cases in jury districts obtain no novel right to a jury trial at all. Practically, therefore, in these districts this arrangement will leave things very much as they are, so far as regards the question of right to trial by jury; though the arrangements under which that trial will be conducted may be of a somewhat different character from the present arrangements. In non-jury districts the amendment will no doubt at present introduce a distinction, but the distinction is one which as we all know can be removed without fresh legislation in any district and at any time if the Local Government should think it fit to do so by extending the general jury system. My honourable friend Mr. Ameer Ali touched upon this subject, but I did not understand him to say that he proposed to move any amendment regarding it in the Select Committee on the Bill, and I should deprecate his doing so. As I

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have alluded to remarks which fell from Mr. Ameer Ali, I may say with respect to certain amendments which he announced his intention of submitting to the Select Committee, that I am sure the Select Committee will receive with careful attention anything which he may bring under their notice, but I cannot, of course, express any opinion on the part of Government in regard to proposals which are not at present before us. I was glad, however, to observe that he said that what he had to propose would not affect the European British subject, because of course it must be clearly understood, with respect to that branch of the question, that the Government are altogether bound by the agreement which has been made through the instrumentality of Mr. Evans, and by that agreement they intend to abide. But Mr. Ameer Ali alluded specially to certain amendments which he intended to suggest in section 526 of the present Code. That is the section affected by Sir Charles Turner's proposals, and I am quite sure that the Select Committee will be very glad indeed to have the assistance of my honourable and learned friend in amending that section with the object of extending the powers of the High Court in regard to transfer. I am afraid that in touching upon the points specially alluded to by Mr. Ameer Ali I have somewhat wandered from the question with which I was dealing when I first referred to this matter, and I will now go back to it.

Native opinion is, I know, averse to such distinctions as those which will be made in non-jury districts. The feeling is very natural, but I would ask those who entertain it to remember that the measure which we are now, I trust, about to pass will vindicate a principle of the greatest value to Her Majesty's native subjects, will remove a disqualification very distasteful to some of the highest native Magistrates and Judges of the land, and will constitute a substantial, if but a limited, advance in the application of the just and wise policy inaugurated in 1833 and confirmed in 1858.

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If to obtain these results in a manner calculated to give them the solid security afforded by the acceptance of the general body of the European community, the Government has consented to grant to those who are directly affected by the change of the law now about to be made a safeguard specially suited to their feelings and consonant with their traditions, it has surely acted wisely in the interests of all parties concerned. One side has gained a re-affirmation and extension of a great principle, which has been violently assailed and bitterly opposed, and the other has received a concession calculated to allay all that is reasonable in fears which have no doubt been widely felt. It seems to me that we may find in these considerations the true justification of the course which the Government has taken.

Before I pass to another topic of great importance I would just say one word in respect to some observations which fell from my honourable friend the Lieutenant-Governor. He spoke of the principles on which men were promoted to the highest posts in the Civil Service; and he said that those promotions were practically made by seniority. Well, I should be the last man to deny the claims of seniority; they are great and constitute a very important element in the consideration of questions of promotion, but at the same time they ought not to constitute the sole or even the ruling principle in respect of such promotions. In the Despatch from the Court of Directors, to which reference was made on Friday by my honourable friend Mr. Ilbert, it is laid down distinctly that fitness is henceforth to be the criterion of eligibility. I think that that is a sound principle, though I admit that great weight ought to be given to the claims of seniority, and I can assure my honourable friend the Lieutenant-Governor and others, that so long as I hold office they will always have my warm support in any case in which they think it necessary to disregard the claims of seniority in favour of considerations of fitness.

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And now, before I conclude the observations I have to make upon this occasion, I wish to explain to this Council the view which I entertain of the policy by which the Government has been guided in the introduction and conduct of this measure ; and in the first place I desire to point out to honourable members that this policy is not, as it is often represented to be, something entirely novel, which has been invented by myself or sent out brand new from England. It is, on the contrary, a policy which was introduced half a century ago, when Europeans were first admitted without restriction to this country. It was a great conception of a great Government, of which, be it remembered, men such as Lord Grey, Lord Palmerston, Lord Russell, Lord Lansdowne, and the late Lord Derby were members. It was clearly enunciated in Parliament and confirmed by both Houses, it was explained and commented on in the Despatch from the Court of Directors, to which my honourable friend Mr. Ilbert alluded on Friday, and finally it received a solemn confirmation in the Queen's Proclamation of 1858. In the Act of 1833, and in that Proclamation, we have then, as it seems to me, two great instruments embodying a clear and definite policy, from which as I hold it is not open to any Government of India to depart. The Charter Act of 1833 was so called because it prolonged for a limited period the charter of the East India Company, but it seems to me that it deserved the name much more because it conferred a great charter upon the people of India. The Proclamation of the Queen issued at a moment so important and so critical as the assumption by the Crown of England of the direct government of the British dominions in India, explained the principles upon which that Government was to be conducted, and gave pledges to her Majesty's Indian subjects which it has ever since been the duty of Her Majesty's representatives to redeem. Those who know anything of the intention with which that Proclamation was prepared know very well that its authors regard-

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ed it as having in view the objects which I have described, and to look at it in any other light would be altogether inconsistent with the great and noble purposes with which it was issued. I know that the view which I hold upon the subject of the character of this document has recently been repudiated by a learned Judge in England, Sir Fitzjames Stephen, who has spoken of it in these words:—

“The Proclamation has no legal force whatever. The Act of Parliament has no force beyond the legal effect of its words. Neither can it bind the Indian Legislative Council, which ought to be guided in the exercise of its discretion solely by its own opinion of the merits of the measure submitted to it, and the extent of its legal authority.”

And then mark this language—

“As a ceremonial, the Proclamation may have been proper, but in any other point of view it is a mere expression of sentiment and opinion, worth as much as the sentiments and opinions expressed would have been without it, and no more.”

We did not require one of Her Majesty's Judges to tell us in these days that a Royal Proclamation has not the force of law, but when Sir Fitzjames Stephen goes on to maintain that a Proclamation issued by the Sovereign of England and of India is only a ceremonial, and is worth no more than the sentiments which it expresses are worth by themselves—that is, that it was a mere formal utterance of sentimental phrases of no binding force or practical effect whatever—I cannot too emphatically express my dissent. To me it seems a very serious thing to put forth to the people of India a doctrine which renders worthless the solemn words of their Sovereign, and which converts her gracious promises which her Indian subjects have cherished for a quarter of a century into a hollow mockery as meaningless as the compliments which form the invariable opening of an oriental letter. Sir Fitzjames Stephen, it seems to me, is not consistent, for he admits, in the course of the document from which I have quoted, that the Proclamation binds the Government of India in regard to the native Princes and States, but in regard

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to Her Majesty's own immediate subjects, it is, according to his view, of no force whatever. It gives no pledge, and it lays down no principle. But if it binds the Government towards the Princes of India, it binds it to the people of India as well. The document is not a treaty. It is not a diplomatic instrument; it is a declaration of principles of Government which, if it is obligatory at all, is obligatory in respect to all to whom it is addressed. The doctrine, therefore, to which Sir Fitzjames Stephen has given the sanction of his authority, I feel bound to repudiate to the utmost of my power. It seems to me to be inconsistent with the character of my Sovereign and with the honour of my country, and if it were once to be received and acted upon by the Government of England, it would do more than anything else could possibly do to strike at the root of our power and to destroy our just influence, because that power and that influence rest upon the conviction of our good faith more than upon any other foundation,—aye, more than upon the valour of our soldiers and the reputation of our arms. I have heard to-day with no little surprise a very different argument. The Honourable Mr Thomas, in aspeech in which he did his utmost to stir up the bitterness of a controversy which was approaching a settlement, and to fan again the dying members of race animosity, has asked—was there ever a nation which retained her supremacy by the righteousness of her laws? I have read in a book, the authority of which the Honourable Mr. Thomas will admit, that righteousness exalteth a nation, and my study of history has led me to the conclusion that it is not by the force of her armies or by the might of her soldiery that a great empire is permanently maintained; but that it is by the righteousness of her laws, by her respect for the principles of justice. To believe otherwise appears to me to assume that there is not a God in Heaven who rules over the affairs of men, and who can punish injustice and iniquity

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in nations as surely as in the individuals of whom they are composed. It is against doctrines like this that I desire to protest, and it is against principles of this description that the gracious Proclamation of the Queen was directed. So long, then, as I hold the office which I now fill, I shall conduct the administration of this country in strict accordance with the policy which has been enjoined upon me by my Queen and by Parliament. Guided by this policy it has been the duty of the Government to refuse with firmness what could not be given without an abandonment of principle. But we have not allowed anything which has passed in the heat of this prolonged controversy to deter us from seeking up to the last moment for a solution of the question at issue, which could be honourably accepted by ourselves and by our opponents alike. In doing so, we have, I believe, better consulted for the real advantage of all races and classes in the country, than if we had rested the reform we are now about to make upon the insecure foundation of a mere exercise of power. And it is in this belief that I now ask you to remit this Bill to a Select Committee, who will consider the amendments which may be proposed, and mould them into the shape best suited to carry out the objects which it is desired to attain. I have one word more to say. I quite accept the proposal of my honourable friend Mr. Evans, that the Select Committee should report on Friday, the 18th of this month.

[The motion referring the Bill to a Select Committee was then put to the Council, and unanimously agreed to.]

UNVEILING THE STATUE OF BABU PROSUNNO
KUMAR TAGORE, C.S.I.

10th Jan 1884

[THE ceremony of unveiling the Statue of the late Babu Prosunno Kumar Tagore, C.S.I., was performed on Thursday afternoon, the 10th January, at half past 3 o'clock, by Lord Ripon, in the Senate-house of the Calcutta University in the presence of a large and influential gathering of Europeans and Natives, amongst whom were Professor Monier Williams, the Hon. Mr. Gibbs, the Hon. Mr. Thomas, the Hon. Sir Steuart Bailey, Maharaja Sir Jotendro Mohan Tagore, Maharaja Narendra Krishna, &c. The members of the Senate, in academic costume, received His Excellency, who was robed as Chancellor of the University, at the entrance-hall, and a procession having been formed, they entered the Senate-house in the following order :—

The Registrar.

Members of the Syndicate.

The Vice-Chancellor.

THE CHANCELLOR.

Ex-officio Fellows.

Remaining Members of the Senate.

The ex-officio Fellows and the Members of the Senate occupied seats on the dais, the remaining Members of the Senate being seated to the right and left of the dais. The Chancellor having taken his seat, Maharaja Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore addressed Lord Ripon in a few introductory words in which he formally made over the statue to His Excellency as Chancellor of the University and asked him to perform the ceremony of unveiling it.

His Excellency (who was received with cheers) then rose and addressed the assembly as follows :—]

Maharaja, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have, I can assure you, very great pleasure in accepting the invitation which has been made to me by my honourable friend Maharaja Sir Jotendro Mohan Tagore to take a part in the ceremony of to-day, and to unveil the statue of his distinguished relative, which is for the future to grace the approaches to this hall. It seems to me that it is peculiarly appropriate that I should do so both in my capacity of Her Majesty's representative in this country

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and also in that of Chancellor of this University. As Viceroy, it is very fitting that I should be ready to do all honour to a distinguished citizen of Bengal (*applause*) ; as Chancellor of the Calcutta University, it is most becoming that I should take a principal part in marking the gratitude of that University to one of her most munificent benefactors. (*Applause.*) You, Maharaja, with a natural modesty, have abstained from entering upon the many claims of your relative to the regard of his countrymen and of this University. I am not bound by such reasons to abstain from speaking of those claims, and yet I am sure that I need not detain this assembly long, because the name and the fame of Prosunno Kumar Tagore are well known to most of you, while many of you were personally acquainted with him. His life was not spent upon battle-fields nor in the arduous duties of public administration, but it seems to me on that account not the less worthy of admiration. Born at the beginning of the century, he lived through 67 eventful years of Indian history, in which time he saw great changes, and passed through times of great trial ; but he won the respect of all who knew him—the attachment of his countrymen and the confidence of successive Governments. (*Applause.*) Sprung from a distinguished family, and possessed of ample means, he was not content to rest upon those adventitious circumstances, but he determined from early youth to fit himself by hard study and constant application for the duties of his life. It is related of him that when he was a young man, and at a time when he had no idea of taking up the legal profession, he nevertheless was an ardent student of the law. On one occasion one of his associates came to him and said, in a tone of banter, “What is the use of a wealthy fellow like you studying the law and wasting your time in getting up all this information, which will be no kind of use to you ?” He is said to have replied—“The mind, my friend, is like a good housewife who is always sure to be

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able to utilise at some time or other whatever she has in her store"—and most certainly Prosunno Kumar Tagore did indeed utilise in his after-life those early legal studies; for I understand that he was possessed of an unusually profound knowledge of Indian law, and I know well that in his career at the Bar he won for himself alike the confidence of the Judges before whom he pleaded and of the public whom he served. Throughout his life he took a large share in public affairs in which he felt a keen and intelligent interest, and among the other public questions with which he specially concerned himself, the extension and development of education occupied a large place. Towards the close of a long life of public utility in which successive Governments had availed themselves of his counsel and advice, he was at length promoted to the post of a member of the Legislative Council of the Governor General, and I understand that he was the first native of India who ever filled that position, and thus a great and important reform in the constitution of India was effected in his person. I must say that it is to me a source of satisfaction and of pride to remember that when I was Under-Secretary of State for India, under my distinguished friend Lord Halifax, it was my duty to pass through the House of Lords the Indian Councils Act of 1861 (*applause*), under which the appointment of natives of India to the Legislative Council for the first time became possible. (*Applause.*) These few words are, I think, sufficient to remind you what manner of man was Prosunno Kumar Tagore. Intelligent, cultivated and public-spirited, he was successful as a scholar, as a lawyer, and also as a public man, and he died full of years and of honours, after a career which well deserves to be commemorated in the imperishable marble of that statue. (*Applause.*) Maharaja, the acknowledgments of this University are due to you for having presented to us this statue. I, as Chancellor, receive it from you, and tender to you our warmest thanks

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for thus placing under our guardianship the effigy of one to whom we owe so much. And surely, ladies and gentlemen, no one will doubt that it is highly appropriate that this statue should be placed under the portico of this building, for the University of Calcutta has an especial reason for cherishing the memory of him whom that statue represents. (*Applause.*) Prosunno Kumar Tagore left in his will a most munificent bequest for the establishment of a Law Professorship in connexion with this University. I need not dilate upon the advantage which Calcutta students derive from that benefaction. You who have experienced these advantages know better than I can tell you, that here was set an example which with advantage may be followed in respect to professorships of other kinds ; and thus this distinguished citizen of this famous city established for himself a perpetual claim upon the gratitude not only of the University but the Government of India, and of all who are interested in the cause of public education. (*Applause.*) It is now two years, or nearly so, since I last had the honour of addressing an audience in this hall. I then spoke at the annual meeting of Convocation, and I availed myself of the opportunity then afforded me to urge to the utmost of my power on men of wealth and position throughout India to come forward and assist the cause of education by founding schools, by aiding colleges, and by establishing scholarships. That which for various reasons which I then detailed, and which I need not now repeat, I thus pressed so strongly upon persons of influence, had been already done on a large scale by Prosunno Kumar Tagore. I am, therefore, bound to recognise his claim to be enrolled among the benefactors not only of the University of Calcutta, but of India at large, and I cannot conceive any more appropriate place for the statue of such a man than the entrance of this building, where it will, I trust, serve to remind many generations of future students of the constant industry and eager love of study by which

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Prosunno Kumar Tagore won his fame, and to stimulate men of his own class and of his own position to emulate that public spirit and that munificent generosity which will ever entitle him to hold a foremost place in the grateful memory of his countrymen. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

[At the conclusion of His Excellency's address the procession re-formed, and proceeded to the portico, where the Viceroy unveiled the Statue. The procession then returned to the dais.]

INDIAN INSTITUTE AT OXFORD.

[His Excellency the Chancellor then rose and spoke as follows:—]

Mr. Vice-Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have been requested to perform on this occasion a duty which seems to me to be wholly unnecessary. I have been asked to introduce to you Professor Monier Williams, the Boden Professor of Sanskrit at Oxford. Now, I am perfectly certain that Professor Monier Williams needs no introduction from anybody (*applause*), and I feel that I am about to perform what is in the strictest sense of the term a work of supererogation in proceeding to introduce one so well known to all who take an interest in Indian literature and learning. But I am not sorry that I have been asked to undertake this duty, because it affords me an excuse for saying a few words, and they shall be very few, upon the work in connexion with India which has brought Professor Monier Williams to this country, and upon which he is about to address you. Most of you, doubtless, have heard of the Indian Institute at Oxford, and you will remember that the corner-stone of it was laid last May by the Prince of Wales, affording another proof, if any were needed, of the deep interest which His Royal Highness feels in everything which concerns India. (*Applause.*) You may, however, not be thoroughly acquainted with the objects for which that Institution is about to be opened; and although I do not desire to trench upon the proper

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functions of Mr. Monier Williams, I will nevertheless ask you to listen to me for a few moments, while I make some observations upon the character of those objects and the reasons which induce me to think that they are of a nature which entitle them to your warmest support. I was looking only to-day over a paper which has been circulated in connexion with this Institute, and I find there that the first and main object of the Institute is described in these words: "The first and main object of the Indian Institute will of course be to give effective and trustworthy teaching in all subjects that relate to India and its inhabitants; to promote and encourage Indian researches, to concentrate and disseminate correct ideas on Indian matters, by united efforts and combined action." (*Applause.*) It is somewhat singular, ladies and gentlemen, that while we have in England Institutes of almost every kind, while we have for instance a useful Colonial Institute, we have not until the present time had an Indian Institute in England at all; and I am sure that a mere statement of the main object of this Institution will be sufficient to convince you that it is very much required, and calculated to be a great advantage to India and to England alike. It seems to me that the objects described in the short extract which I have just read are of the very highest value; for they will secure if adequately carried out, as I am confident they will be, an extended knowledge in England of the literature and resources of India, and of the character and genius of her inhabitants. But speaking for myself, it is not so much those general objects, important as they are in themselves, which have induced me to take a very special interest in this undertaking. Over and above the purposes to which I have just adverted, there are two other objects to which I attach a special importance, and to which I desire to draw your particular attention on this occasion. In the first place, it is intended that this Institute should afford a means of drawing together those young men who, having

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passed the examination for the Indian Civil Service, go as probationers to the Universities for a certain space of time. It so happens, I understand, that the majority of these probationers are in the habit of going to the University of Oxford, and it is to give to their studies there a local habitation that this Institute has as one of its objects been established—that is to say, to afford to those young men who are about to come out to India to discharge for the best portion of their lives the important duties of Indian Civil servants, to give to them at the commencement of their career, even before they reach these shores, something of an Indian atmosphere, and thus to supply a want which, if I mistake not, many persons have felt since the abolition of the Haileybury College, to afford means of arousing that *esprit de corps* which was one of the advantages which that ancient Institution possessed, and to give to those young men, after they have chosen their career, but before they have entered upon it, as close and intimate an acquaintance with Indian literature and habits of thought and with the circumstances of this country as it is possible to give them before they have actually landed on our shores. I look upon that purpose of the Indian Institute as one of great value and as likely to supply a want which is beginning to make itself very much felt. There are at Oxford able teachers and professors of subjects connected with India—law and languages and other kindred subjects. In this Institute will be their lecture rooms; there will be a library, reading-room, and museum connected with India; there will be a centre of thought connected with the literature and interests of this country, and I cannot but think that that will be an advantage of a very valuable kind. But there is another contemplated feature of the Institute which I regard with even greater satisfaction. I learn that in the building which is now in course of erection, and part of which, I understand, will be ready to be opened in the course of

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next summer, there are to be rooms intended to be used by native students proceeding from this country to study at the English Universities. I rejoice greatly to hear that, for I look upon everything which tends to facilitate the practice of Indian young men going to England to complete their education as a matter of very great importance. I do not desire them to go there as mere tourists, though advantage may even be derived from that. What I should wish to see is that they should go there as real students under strict academical discipline, and that they should not be cast loose to wander about amidst all the dangers and temptations of a great city like London (*applause*), but that they should have the means of prosecuting their studies in a great English University like Oxford. (*Applause.*) And when I say Oxford, ladies and gentlemen, my excellent friend Mr. Monier Williams will, I am sure, agree with me when I add that I by no means intend to exclude Cambridge or any other of our Universities. It so happens that this Institution is located at Oxford, greatly to the honour of that University, but if similar Institutions should be established elsewhere they will have a like claim upon our support. I say, then, that I look with great satisfaction upon the fact that facilities are to be afforded in this Institute under University regulations for the accommodation of Indian students. Doubtless, ladies and gentlemen, that raises another question perhaps more difficult to solve, namely, how the means are to be provided to take these young men to these rooms. Well, I am not come here to-day for the purpose of talking of ways and means. That would be out of my proper province; but this at least I may be permitted to hope, that as we gaze upon the statue which we have just unveiled, and remember what the man whom it represents did with his wealth for the cause of education, not a few perhaps may be stirred up to imitate his noble example (*applause*), and if they are so inclined there are few ways in which that

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example may better be followed than by affording to young men of ability, but of small means, the opportunity of availing themselves of the great advantages which this Institution is calculated to confer upon them. (*Applause.*) Ladies and gentlemen, I have but one more observation to make, and that is, that however these students may be chosen,—by whatever means they may be enabled to prosecute their studies,—it is in my judgment essentially necessary that they should be selected young men, that they should be young men capable of upholding the character and reputation of the Indian people, not only by their intellectual, but by their moral qualifications. (*Applause.*) It is no use sending dunces to Oxford to come away no wiser than they went; and it is worse still to send there men who will degrade the character and tarnish the good fame of the natives of this country. (*Applause.*) Therefore I hope that under whatever arrangements these rooms may hereafter be occupied, care will be taken that the great advantage which a residence at Oxford will afford will only be given to those who, by their mental and moral qualities, are calculated to make the best use of it. (*Applause.*) Ladies and gentlemen, I need no longer stand between you and the learned Professor, whom, I know, you are anxious to hear, but I could not perform the duty of calling upon him to address you without availing myself of the opportunity thus afforded to me to tell you not only that I feel a deep interest in his work, but why I feel it. (*Applause.*)

[Professor Monier Williams then delivered an address on the subject, and after a short discussion, the proceedings terminated.]

CENTENARY OF THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL.

[ON Tuesday evening, the 15th January, the Viceroy was entertained at dinner by the Members of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, the occasion being the Centenary of the Society. About seventy gentlemen sat down to dinner, and the Hon. H. J. Reynolds presided. In replying to the toast of his health, proposed by Mr. Reynolds, the Viceroy, who on rising was warmly received, spoke as follows :—]

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—I thank you sincerely for the toast which you have just drunk. I thank you, Mr. President, for the terms in which you have proposed, and you, gentlemen, for the reception which you have accorded to it. I can assure you that it is a great pleasure to me to be present here this evening, and thus to mark the strong interest which I feel in the prosperity of this Society. The occasion which has brought us together to-night is one which must command the sympathy of all who care for Oriental literature and learning; for we are assembled here to-day to celebrate the centenary of a Society which has for its special object the promotion of the study of Asiatic languages, literature, history, and science. England may be called the home of societies. They spring up there of every kind and for every conceivable purpose. Some of them are extremely ephemeral, and are born to-day to die to-morrow, and but few of them can count a hundred years of life. The fact, therefore, that the Asiatic Society of Bengal has now completed a full hundred years of existence is a proof of the importance of the objects for which it has been established, and of the earnestness and zeal with which its members have laboured to promote those ends. (*Applause.*) It seems to me that Englishmen may well be proud when they recollect that this Society was first established in the year 1784, and when they call to mind how soon it was after the real commencement of our political rule in this country that we began to take a deep interest in the language literature, and history of India. Within less than thirty

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years of the battle of Plassey, Englishmen were found looking forward with most prophetic eyes to the future which lay before them, and they set themselves to work to master the hidden treasures of Eastern learning, and thus to lay a solid foundation for our power in an intelligent knowledge of the people of the country with whom, in so marvellous a manner, they had just been brought into close and intimate relations. (*Applause.*) To me, as a public man, it is peculiarly interesting to see that the founders and the first members of this Society, most of them administrators, or judges, or men with official duties, approached the problem of government from one of its most important sides, and sought to obtain a real and substantial comprehension of the feelings and genius of the people among whom their lot was to be cast. (*Applause.*) It is true that this was not their only object. It may not even have been consciously a foremost object with them at all, but it was embodied in their undertaking; and by its promotion they conferred great benefits upon this country. (*Applause.*) From that time, up to the present hour, this Society has steadily pursued its work; by library and museum, by the publication of original papers and of many most valuable works in Sanscrit, Arabic, Persian, and other languages, and by providing a centre of intercourse for oriental scholars and of information for oriental students, it has laboured to promote the end which its founders had in view. (*Applause.*) Time will not permit to detain you by entering upon any biographical sketches of the many eminent men who have been connected with this Institution, or I might recall to you the lives and the services to literature and science, both in England and in India, of Sir William Jones, of Sir John Shore, of Colebrooke, of Wilkins, of H. H. Wilson, of James Prinsep, and of the other remarkable men who have adorned the Asiatic Society of Bengal (*applause*)—men who were all distinguished in their respective ways, zealous members of this Society, of varied learning and constant study,

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and who won for themselves the admiration not only of their own countrymen, but of learned men in all parts of the world. (*Applause.*) Guided by these men, and by such as these, this Society has maintained its position down to the present time, and even now, in these days, with that widened attention to Eastern learning which has of late been given to it by learned men of all countries, this Society has received no check, and continues to preserve the respect of all who are acquainted with its labours. And now, gentlemen, I am about, I fear, to commit what may be considered an unpardonable sin in an after-dinner speaker, but I trust to you to forgive me if I yield to the strong temptation which prompts me to read to you an extract from the words of one whose memory must be foremost in our recollections to-night. There is no name that could come before us on this occasion with the same force of reality as that of Sir William Jones. (*Applause.*) I was much struck last year in reading the interesting lectures of Professor Max Müller, which were published under the title of "India and what she has to teach us," by an account which I found there, given by Sir William Jones himself, of the feelings with which he first landed in this country. I will read you the words, because they are far more eloquent and heart-stirring than any that I could myself command, and because it is well that we should to-night have brought before us the actual thoughts of him whose memory we are met to honour, for, though we are primarily assembled here to celebrate the centenary of the Society which he has founded, we are here also to mark our veneration of his character and our gratitude for his services. (*Applause.*) This is what he said of himself when he approached the shores of India when he first came out to this country: "When I was at sea last August" (that is in August 1783) "on my voyage to this country (India), which I had long and ardently desired to visit, I found one evening, on inspecting the observations

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of the day, that *India* lay before us, *Persia* on our left, whilst a breeze from *Arabia* blew nearly on our stern. A situation so pleasing in itself, and to me so new, could not fail to awaken a train of reflections in a mind which had early been accustomed to contemplate with delight the eventful histories and agreeable fictions of this Eastern World. It gave me inexpressible pleasure to find myself in the midst of so noble an amphitheatre, almost encircled by the vast regions of Asia, which has ever been esteemed the nurse of sciences, the inventress of delightful and useful arts, the scene of glorious actions, fertile in the productions of human genius, and infinitely diversified in the forms of religion and government, in the laws, manners, customs, and languages, as well as in the features and complexions of men. I could not help remarking how important and extensive a field was yet unexplored, and how many solid advantages unimproved." It seems to me, gentlemen, that in these glowing words we have the germ of this Society; for within a few months after they had sprung up in the mind of your distinguished founder, they found their natural realization in the establishment of this Institution. During the whole time which has since elapsed, the Asiatic Society of Bengal has pursued its way instinct with the same feelings, and bent upon the same aims as those which rose up before Sir William Jones as he approached the shores of India. It is in the earnest hope that for long years yet to come it will continue to labour earnestly and successfully for these most valuable ends, that I now ask you to join with me in drinking to its prosperity, and I couple with the toast the name of one so well qualified by his high character and varied attainments to fill the honourable office of President as my friend Mr. Reynolds.

[The toast was drunk with loud applause. Mr. Reynolds in an interesting speech replied to the toast. The toast of "Our Guests" was proposed by Mr. Gibbs, and replied to by Professor Monier Williams, and the proceedings terminated.]

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE AMENDMENT BILL.

[In the Legislative Council, held on Friday, the 25th January, 1884, 25th Jan. 1884. Mr. Ilbert moved that "the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882, so far as it relates to the exercise of jurisdiction over European British subjects, be taken into consideration." He explained that the Bill had been amended by the Select Committee on the lines indicated in the last debate in Council, and described briefly the effect of the Bill in its amended form. He also pointed out why it was not possible to adopt any more than a very small part of certain other amendments brought forward in Committee by Mr. Amir Ali. After a short explanation from Mr. Evans as to "how there came to be matters in the Bill as amended which are beyond its original scope," the motion was put and agreed to.

The Mahārājā of Darbhanga then moved an amendment to the effect that all persons, native as well as others, should have the right to claim trial by jury. A discussion ensued, in which Messrs. Hunter, Amir Ali, Evans, and Ilbert spoke against the amendment, and Mr. Kristodás Pál in favour of it. Messrs. Hunter and Amir Ali sympathised with the object of the amendment, but considered the present an inopportune time for bringing it forward. The Viceroy spoke as follows :—]

I do not propose on the present occasion to enter into the general question of the merits of the jury system or the desirability of its wider extension in this country. I desire to join my voice to those of Mr. Hunter and Mr. Amir Ali, in asking my honourable friend the Mahārājā of Darbhanga not to press this proposal on the present occasion. I think that he will certainly not advance the object that he has in view by taking that course. The question which he has raised is one of great importance; it is one which I readily admit deserves very full and careful consideration; but it would be, in my judgment, impossible for the Government to accept at this, the last, stage of the Bill an amendment which would have so wide a scope as that which has been moved by my honourable friend, without having had time to consider the subject in all its bearings,

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or to consult Local Governments and others whose opinions are to be taken upon a large question of this description. If such a course were open to me upon this occasion, I should like to move what is called in Parliament "the previous question." But no such thing can be done in this Council, and I can, therefore, only say the Government is not prepared to express an opinion now. I admit that the fact which the honourable gentleman, Mr. Kristodás Pál, has alluded to, that there appears to be a strong feeling in the country in favour of the extension of the jury system, is a matter which of itself deserves our consideration; but to oblige the Government to vote against this motion at this time would be unduly to prejudice the further examination of the subject. I make no complaint on the score of regularity against my honourable friend the Mahárájá of Darbhanga for having raised this question, and thereby drawn additional attention to it; but I confess that I should very much regret that, by dividing the Council, he should force the Government to pronounce an opinion upon it prematurely, and at the time when they have not the necessary information before them to enable them to form a deliberate judgment upon it. That the question is deserving of consideration I entirely admit, but that it would injure the cause which the Mahárájá has at heart if he were to press for a motion on the present occasion, I cannot for a moment doubt.

[The amendment was withdrawn.]

Mr. Ilbert then moved "that the Bill as amended be passed." A discussion followed, in which Messrs. Amir Ali, Kristodás Pál, and Evans took part, and which was closed by the Viceroy, who spoke as follows:—]

I stated so fully my views upon this subject in the course of the discussion which arose upon the motion that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee, that I had no intention when I came into this room of making any further observations upon the matter. To the views which I then set forth I entirely adhere, and it is quite

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needless that I should repeat them now. The Honourable Raí Bahádúr Kristodás Pál has repeated briefly some objections which he raised in the former discussion to the practical working of the arrangements now embodied in this Bill. I replied upon that occasion to the remarks which he then made, and as I have seen no reason since then to modify the views which I expressed, I will not take up the time of the Council by repeating what I said at that time. The honourable gentleman has remarked that the long controversy which has existed unhappily now for several months has brought to the Natives of the country no adequate result. From that I must entirely dissent. As I stated on the former occasion, I hold that the results which will be secured by this measure are results of the highest importance to the Native community in this country. I then pointed out how the principle upon which this Bill was founded had been maintained, acknowledged, and secured; how a disqualification strongly felt by some of the highest Native Magistrates and Judges in this country would be by this Bill removed, and how the policy which was laid down fifty years ago, and has been steadily pursued since then by successive Governments, has been once more vindicated and affirmed. I believe that these results are of the highest importance to the countrymen of the honourable gentleman, and I also venture to think that, though there may be many who may be inclined to criticise—and it is quite fair that they should criticise—the settlement now made, the general feeling of the Native community is that the Bill does uphold and advance a principle to which they attach the highest importance. I cannot, therefore, agree with the honourable gentleman in the opinion that those who have supported this Bill and this policy have lost under the recent arrangements more than they have gained. I must entirely adhere to the opinion which I expressed on the previous occasion, that the gains have been large and important, and that, as I then said,

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nothing has been taken from the Natives, though an additional safeguard has been given to the European community. I do not wish to prolong this discussion. The last thing that I should desire would be to renew for a moment the controversy of the last few months. I earnestly trust that that controversy may now be brought to a close. I hope and believe that the system established by this Bill will be found to work well, and nothing shall be wanting on the part of the Government to secure its successful operation. I might content myself with these remarks, which I have felt bound to make in order to defend the policy, and to point out the results and the gains, of the measure which is now about to be passed. But I must, before I conclude, say one or two words on the remarks which fell from the Honourable Mr. Amir Ali. And, in the first place, while I thank him very much for the manner in which he spoke of the labours of the present Government of India, I cannot take either to myself or to my colleagues the compliment which he was kind enough to pay us. He said that, under this Government, for the first time, the desires and wishes of the Natives had received due attention. That is a statement to which I cannot subscribe, when I recollect the many eminent men who have preceded me in the office which I now fill, and when I know how many previous Governments have worked earnestly for the benefit of the people of this country. Each day has its own tasks; the tasks of twenty years ago were not the tasks of the present moment. We have endeavoured to do our duty in the position in which we have found ourselves placed, and we shall continue to do so; but I must deprecate any comparison between the labours of the present Government and the labours of those which have preceded it. With respect to the other remarks of the Honourable Mr. Amir Ali, I only wish to say this—the Government naturally attach great weight to the opinions expressed in the report of a Select

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Committee, composed as the Select Committee on this Bill has been ; and when I find that Select Committee saying, in reference to one of the suggestions of Mr. Amir Ali, " we are fully sensible of the importance of the point thus raised, and we think it well worthy of the consideration of the Government"—it is unnecessary for me to say that such an observation coming from such a source will receive the fullest and most careful consideration of the Government. And now I have no more to say. I rejoice that this question is brought to a conclusion, and I trust that conclusion is one which, when the heat of this controversy has died away, will enable this measure to work smoothly and satisfactorily. I think that to attain that end was an object which the Government did well to desire. We were not prepared—and we shall never be prepared—to sacrifice the principles for which we have contended, for we believe them to be the true principles of English government in this country ; but within the limits of those principles it was our duty to seek for any settlement which would secure a general acquiescence at least in the arrangements which we proposed to make. That object has been attained, and if it is honestly and faithfully kept in view on both sides, it will, I have every confidence, be found that the arrangements now made are consistent alike with the honour of the Government and the advantage of the country.

[The Motion was put and agreed to, and the Bill was passed into law]

ADDRESS FROM THE MADRAS MUNICIPALITY.

31st Jan. 1884. [ON Monday morning, the 28th January, the Viceroy left Calcutta, for Hyderabad, the object of his visit to that place being to instal the Nizam. His Excellency was accompanied by Lady Ripon, Mr. H. W. Primrose, Lord William Beresford, the Rev. H. S. Kerr, and other members of his staff, and by Mr. H. M. Durand, Officiating Foreign Secretary, and Captain Hext, Director of Indian Marine. The party were conveyed to Diamond Harbour by special train, whence they embarked on board the Indian Government S. S. *Clive*. The *Clive* anchored in the Madras Harbour on the afternoon of the 31st. For hours before that time crowds of Natives of all classes had been assembling along the beach, upon the breakwater, and at other points from which a good view could be obtained, while at the end of the pier at which the Viceroy landed, a large number of persons, officials and non-officials, were assembled in three shamianas, one erected for the reception of His Excellency by the principal Government officials, one for his reception by the Native community, and the third for the accommodation of the European community. The Viceroy landed at half past four with the usual ceremonies; and, accompanied by Lady Ripon and his staff, the Governor of Madras and Mrs. Grant Duff, proceeded along the pier in two railway cars to the shore end. Here Their Excellencies were received in the first shamiana by the principal officials of Madras, and took their seats with Mr. and Mrs. Grant Duff, and Sir Donald Stewart, who had arrived the previous evening. The Prince of Arcot, the Judges of the Madras High Court, Raja Sir T. Madava Rao, and other Native gentlemen were then presented to the Viceroy, after which an address of welcome was read to His Excellency on behalf of the Madras Municipality, by the President, in which reference was made to some of the more important measures of His Excellency's administration and to which Lord Ripon replied as follows:—]

Your Excellency, Mr. President, and Gentlemen of the Municipality of Madras,—I return you my best thanks for the address which you have just presented to me. It affords me, I assure you, great gratification to visit this interesting and well-known city. For me, personally, the city of Madras, and the Madras Presidency, have a close and peculiar interest, because my grandfather, the first

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of the two Lord Hobarts who have been Governors of this Presidency, was here, as you know, ruling this district for several years, and it was here, in Madras, that my mother was born; and among the earliest recollection of her childhood were those connected with India. Since then, my relative, the second Lord Hobart, has also ruled this Presidency with success. He was not only my relative, but my intimate friend, and to visit this place, in which he laid down his life in the service of India and of his country, has for me a deep, though it be a painful interest.

Gentlemen,—It did not need your address to assure me of the loyal sentiments by which you are animated towards our Queen-Empress. Your deeds prove that better than any words can prove it; but nevertheless it is a source of satisfaction to me that I shall be able, when next I write to Her Majesty, to report the warm and cordial expressions of loyalty which I find in your address. (*Applause.*) You have spoken of the efforts which have been made by the Government of India since I have had the honour to preside over it, for the extension of commerce and the promotion of industry. I am very glad to find that those efforts meet with your approval. It has been the desire of the Government to give to India those great benefits from the extension of free trade which have been so valuable to England, and also we have wished, while acting in strict accordance with true economical principles, to do what lies within the province of Government to afford legitimate encouragement to the manufactures and industries of this country. (*Applause.*)

Gentlemen,—You have spoken of the labours of the Education Commission. That Commission, of which Mr. Miller of this Presidency was one of the most valuable and distinguished members, has, as you are aware, now brought its labours to an end, and it will be the duty of the Government of India, in consultation with local Governments, to consider its recommendations and to take

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such steps as may be necessary to promote the objects which it was intended to advance. The main purpose with which the Commission was appointed was, as you are aware, the extension of primary education ; but I desire that it should be thoroughly understood by you that when we speak of the extension of primary education we have no thought that any measures could, or ought to be taken which would in the least degree tend to check or diminish the higher education of the country. (*Applause.*) On the contrary, I look upon the extent to which higher education has been promoted in India under English rule as one of the greatest claims which England has upon the gratitude of the Indian people. (*Applause.*) But what we feel is that while much has been done for those branches of education, much remains to be done to spread elementary education among the great body of the people. It is a difficult work and must necessarily be slow, but it is a work for which the time has come, and it will be to me a source of gratification indeed if during the period that I continue to direct the administration of this country it should be given to me to lay broader and wider the foundations of a sound system of primary education. (*Applause.*)

Gentlemen,—You have also spoken of the efforts which have been made by the present Government of India for the promotion of local self-government. We are not the inventors of the system of local self-government. Local self-government in various forms existed here before the English came into the country, and English Governments long before the present laid the foundations of a sound system of government of that description. But it seemed to me that the time had come when we might take a further advance in the direction which had been followed by our predecessors, and when we might do something more to extend and develop local self-government in India with a view to promote the training of the people of this country in the management of their own local affairs and to

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advance their political education. It is for those objects that we have laboured. We have been well aware that in a country like this the methods adopted in different provinces, and in different districts of some provinces, must be various. Nothing has been further from our intentions than to force a cut-and-dried system of our own upon the country. We have turned to local Governments—we have asked for their assistance—and I am confident that that assistance will be cordially given to us, and that the measures now being passed through different legislatures in various parts of the country will effect a substantial progress in the development of local institutions in India. (*Applause.*) You seem to think so yourselves, for you have said that you anticipate with unhesitating confidence “the success which is destined to attend these important measures.” The Government has done, and is doing, its part; local Governments in their respective degrees are affording aid in the matter. It remains mainly now for you, the people of India, here in this Presidency, as in other parts of India, to show whether we have, or have not, been mistaken in the policy which we have pursued; or whether we have been wrong in thinking that you were fit for this advance in regard to local self-government, and that the time had come when you might be safely entrusted with all the powers and extended duties attaching to it. I believe that that time has come, and with you, gentlemen, I also believe that success will attend this measure. (*Applause.*) I can only say that if it be so it will be to me a very great and gratifying recollection when I have left the shores of India that I have done something—little though it may be—to advance this great and beneficial object. Gentlemen, I have only now to repeat my hearty thanks to you for the address which you have presented to me, and I have to thank you also on behalf of Lady Ripon for having coupled her name with it. It is to her, I can assure you, a great pleasure to be able to visit

Address from the Native Community of Madras.

Madras, of which she has long heard so much. (*Loud applause.*)

[The address was presented in a richly ornamented casket, which bore the following inscription: "Presented to His Excellency the Most Honourable the Marquis of Ripon, K.G., Viceroy and Governor General of India, by the Municipal Commissioners of the City of Madras, on the 31st January 1884."

The Viceroy, Lady Ripon, and Mr. and Mrs. Grant Duff then proceeded to the beautifully decorated shamiana erected by the Native community and took their seats on the dais, which was surmounted by a canopy supported by four silver-plated pillars. Raja Sir T. Madava Rao then read an address of welcome to Their Excellencies, explaining that he did so on behalf of the Native community of Madras, and of delegates who had been deputed from Nega-patam, Tanjore, Cuddapah, Bellary, Cuddalore, Coimbatore, Nellore, Trichinopoly, Combaconum, Madura, Calicut, and Srirangam, and who were present. To this address Lord Ripon replied as follows:—]

Your Excellency, Sir Madava Rao, and Gentlemen,— I thank you on behalf of myself and of Lady Ripon very cordially indeed for the address which you have been good enough to present me with. As I said just now, it did not need the words of any address to assure me of the loyalty of the inhabitants of Madras, of all races, creeds and classes. But as Her Majesty's representative I accept the expressions of that loyalty which are contained in your address, and I shall make it my duty to report them to the Queen-Empress upon an early occasion. (*Applause.*) I have to thank you very much for the extremely kind words in which you have spoken of me and of the efforts which I have made since I came to this country to promote the welfare of the Indian people. You have spoken of "even-handed justice." Yes, gentlemen, even-handed justice is the truest foundation of any Government. Upon even-handed justice the power of England in India rests, and it is because the people of this country feel that from England they may expect that justice—it is because that conviction is permanent in their minds—that the power of England is firm and solid in India. (*Applause.*) You have

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spoken of the purpose by which you are good enough to think that I and the Government of which I am the head are animated of promoting India's welfare and England's glory. Gentlemen, India's welfare and England's glory are not two things, but one and the same thing (*applause*); that which promotes the welfare of India promotes the glory of England (*applause*), and the truest glory of my country is that she should be able in the far East, and by her rule here in India, to promote to the utmost the welfare of the people over whom God has placed her. (*Applause.*) I will not detain you now ; suffice it to say, I heartily thank you for the marked proof which you have been good enough to give me of your confidence and regard. (*Loud applause.*)

[Sir Madava Rao then placed garlands round the necks of the Viceroy, Lady Ripon, the Governor, Mrs. Grant Duff, and the Commander-in-Chief of India, and others ; at the same time presenting bouquets, each bouquet being surmounted by the figure of a parroquet. The Viceregal party then proceeded to the Beach Road, where their carriages were waiting, and from whence they drove to Guindy Park. The road *en route* was decorated with flags and banners and frequent triumphal arches bearing appropriate devices and inscriptions, and at several points galleries were erected for the accommodation of the students and children of various schools in Madras.]

ADDRESS FROM THE NATIVE COMMUNITY OF
CUDDAPAH.

1st Feb. 1884.

[THE Viceroy and Lady Ripon left Madras at noon on the 1st February by special train for Hyderabad. A halt was made at Cuddapah in the evening for dinner, and here the leading members of the Native community were assembled at the railway station and presented His Excellency with an address of welcome, to which he replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I have to thank you for the address which you have just presented to me, and of which I had previously received a copy. I assure you that I am very sensible of the manner in which you speak of the labours of the Government of India since I have had the honour of presiding over it, and I am very glad to find from the terms which you have employed, that you appreciate the spirit in which I and my colleagues have endeavoured to conduct the arduous duties which fall to the lot of those who are entrusted with the administration of this vast peninsula. You will not expect me, gentlemen, to enter upon the details which are touched upon in the portion of your address which you have not read upon the present occasion. Those details traverse a large field; they touch upon some questions which, to use a common phrase of the day, are not within the sphere of practical politics, and they deal with other points upon which I am sure that you feel that it would not be right for the head of the Government to give a cursory opinion upon an occasion like the present; all that I can say is, that upon this, as upon all occasions, I am very glad to receive any intimation of the feelings, desires, and hopes of any portion of the people of this country, and that those desires and those wishes will always receive the most careful consideration from me and from my colleagues. (*Applause.*) There are, however, two points upon which I should desire to say a few words. In the first of the matters upon which

Address from the Native Community of Cuddapah.

you have touched in the central portion of your address, I am inclined to recommend you to bear in mind that the Government has recently taken measures, to which you have alluded in the earlier portion of your address, for the development and extension of local self-government in this country. We have done what seemed to us advisable for an object to which we attached great importance. We have taken a further step in the direction previously traversed by other Governments, and thereby marked the confidence which we feel in the people of this country; but it now rests mainly with you, gentlemen, and with others in your position, to show whether we have been right or wrong in that confidence. If the hopes which we entertain, and which, as you know well, are not shared by all persons—if those hopes should turn out to be fallacious, then the policy upon which they have been founded will have been a failure. If, on the other hand, you set yourselves practically to work, when you get your extended powers, to show that you can use them wisely, and like sensible men of business, and that you know how to conduct your own affairs with that extended freedom which we desire to give you, then you will have established the best claim to a further development of the same policy. (*Applause.*) I have remarked, I confess with some regret, what you say in your address with respect to the Report of the Education Commission. I think that that portion of your address must have been written under some misconception of the intentions and purport of that Report. The notices which I had seen in the public press from various parts of India had led me to believe that, generally speaking, the recommendations of the Commission had been received with satisfaction, but I am afraid that you are still under an impression, which is an erroneous one, and which I am glad you have given me this opportunity of removing, that there is some intention on the part of the Government, in their zeal to extend primary

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education, to do something which would tend to hamper, check, or diminish the higher education of the country. Now, as I said yesterday at Madras, so I say here—nothing can be further than that from our intentions. (*Applause.*) We have the fullest desire to maintain, extend, and develop the higher education of this country, at the same time that we think that the period has arrived when we ought to take a further step in the education of the masses of the people. (*Applause.*) I have nothing more to say to you, gentlemen, upon this occasion, except to thank you very much on behalf of myself and Lady Ripon for the very cordial welcome you have given to us, and to assure you that I am very glad indeed to have had this opportunity of meeting you, and of thanking you for the very beautiful decorations and arrangements which you have made for our reception, and which we shall long gratefully remember. (*Applause.*)

INSTALLATION OF THE NIZAM OF HYDERABAD.

5th Feb 1884. [The Viceroy and Lady Ripon arrived at Hyderabad on Saturday the 2nd February at 5 P.M., and were received at the railway station by His Highness the Nizam, the members of the Council of Regency, Mr. Cordery, the Resident, and all the principal officials of Hyderabad. The station was very tastefully, and even elaborately, decorated. The place where the Viceroy alighted was draped with scarlet, and flanked by two handsome arches bearing inscriptions of welcome and portraits of Lord Ripon and the Nizam. A device intended to show the contrast between travelling in the Nizam's Dominions in 1874 (before the State railway had been opened) and in 1884, occupied a prominent position. A bullock cart was shown, making painfully slow progress over a rutted road, and followed by coolies trudging along with baggage on their heads. Contiguous to this specimen of art was a picture in which a railway train was represented as entering the

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Hyderabad station. A large representation of the Royal coat-of-arms, and also the flags of all nations, were displayed in the station grounds. On alighting from the carriage Their Excellencies, accompanied by Mr. Cordery and the Viceroy's staff, drove to the Bolaram Residency in state, being attended by the Amir-i-Kabir, the 14th Hussars furnishing an escort. The whole of the route, a distance of about 10 miles, was decorated with venetian masts, flags, shields, and other devices, and beautiful arches, surmounted with mottoes such as "Long Live the Nizam" and "God Bless the Viceroy" spanned the roads. The day was observed as a general holiday, and the whole of the population turned out, forming in their bright-coloured costumes as they moved about in crowds a very picturesque scene. In order to show the feeling entertained for Lord Ripon by the Native community, it may be mentioned that a number of Mahomedans brought prayer carpets to the railway station and asked to be allowed to pray in presence of a portrait of His Excellency which had been placed there as a decoration, while a tent curiously wrought in a sort of rough lace in honour of Parvati (a Hindu goddess) was brought from the temple and erected in the garden alongside the platform. This feeling of regard and loyalty was no doubt evoked by the fact that Lord Ripon had come to Hyderabad as the first Governor General who had visited that place to instal a Prince in whom all hopes were centred during a long minority.

On Tuesday morning, the 5th February, the installation of the Nizam was performed by the Viceroy. The ceremony took place in the large darbar room of the Chou Mahaila Palace, where former Nizams had been installed. The building is a reproduction in stucco of the magnificent marble structures of Delhi, but without any attempt at gilding or other ornamentation, austere simplicity prevailing throughout. A yellow carpet extended from the open side of the building to the further wall, near which a dais was placed. On the maroon velvet of the dais, to which access was given by three steps, were two chairs of state, large and massive but plain gilt, with yellow-velvet seats. In front of the dais were two smaller chairs, on which the Viceroy and the Nizam were seated, before the latter being placed a chair of state representing the *gadi*. Overhead was a splendid canopy of cloth-of-gold, supported by four handsome pillars of silver and gold, and from the sides streamed radiant yellow-silk hangings with white fringe. A recess to the right of the dais was covered with red and green velvet hangings, the wall underneath being covered with beautiful embroidered velvet. Obviously the hangings concealed something not given to the public to divine. Chairs were placed to the right and left of the

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dais on both sides of the great hall. On seats to the left were Mr. Grant Duff (Governor of Madras), Sir Donald Stewart (Commander-in-Chief in India), and Sir Frederick Roberts (Commander-in-Chief of Madras), besides a large number of Civil and Military Officers; while a little behind were a number of ladies, Mrs. and Miss Grant Duff, Lady Anne Blunt, and Lady Keyes being amongst them. Lady Ripon was unfortunately absent, having sprained her ankle at the Residency—an accident which occasioned disappointment to many. All the chief nobility of Hyderabad were present, and their rich and imposing costumes imparted colour and picturesqueness to the scene. The Viceroy with his staff, who drove from Bolaram, escorted by a wing of the 14th Hussars and a Battery of Royal Horse Artillery, was received at the entrance to the Palace by the Nizam, a salute of 31 guns being fired in honour of his arrival. A procession was then formed and proceeded to the Darbar Hall, and the Viceroy took his seat on the left hand chair in front of the dais, the Nizam being on his right and Mr. Cordery, the Resident, next His Highness. After some formalities had been gone through, His Excellency rose and addressed the Nizam as follows :—]

I can assure Your Highness that it affords me great gratification to be able to be present here to-day in order to discharge in the name and on behalf of the Queen-Empress of India the duty of declaring Your Highness to be invested with full powers for the administration of your State.

When I learnt from Your Highness a few weeks ago that you had a great wish that I should come to Hyderabad for this purpose, I felt a strong desire to comply with your request, in which I saw a proof of Your Highness' attachment to the British Government, and of your confidence in the strength and sincerity of its friendship.

I am, I believe, the first Viceroy or Governor General who has ever visited Hyderabad, and my presence on this occasion is a mark not only of the close and intimate ties which unite the ruler of this great State to the Government of the Queen-Empress, but also of Her Majesty's deep interest in the welfare of the Nizam.

During the long years of your minority Your Highness and your people enjoyed a signal advantage in having at

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the head of the administration of the State one of the foremost statesmen of India, a man who by his high intelligence, his varied capacity, and his devotion to Your Highness' interests was able, amidst all the difficulties of a minority, to conduct the government of the State with a success which entitles him to the grateful remembrance both of Your Highness and of the Government of India. Sir Salar Jung, during Your Highness' youth, had done much to reform the administration in many ways, to improve the revenue system, and to give increased security to life and property, and at the moment of his death he was contemplating further measures of improvement. It had been my hope that when Your Highness came of age he would have been at hand to aid you with his long experience and to serve you with his well-tried zeal; but it has pleased God to ordain otherwise and to take him from your side at the very moment when, in some respects, you most stand in need of such assistance as he could have given to you; and his absence from among us casts a shade even over the brilliant ceremonies and heart-felt rejoicings of this auspicious day. But his work survives him, and I trust that Your Highness' ministers will ever make it a guiding object of their administration to preserve and to extend that work.

I have now a few words of practical advice to offer to you. Look to your finances. Disordered finances are the ruin of States. It is so everywhere, it is very specially so in India. Carelessness and extravagance in financial matters mean, first, heavy taxation, and then gradual impoverishment and ruin of the people, and then loans with increasing interest, and final bankruptcy. Reasonable economy and just and equal taxation mean ever-increasing prosperity and expanding wealth. A good revenue system is the foundation of good government in India, and without it the prince is embarrassed and the people miserable. Again, I earnestly trust that Your Highness will keep a

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strict watch over the honest and equal administration of justice. That the judicial officers of a State should be pure above the taint of suspicion and courageous above the influences of fear, secures for a ruler the gratitude of his subjects and the admiration of his neighbours. Pure justice is the brightest jewel that can adorn a coronet. Let it ever shine forth on yours.

Your Highness has before you a great and arduous task. You are the ruler of some ten millions of men; their welfare will henceforth depend greatly upon you, upon your wisdom, your industry, and your self-denial. Let me entreat you not to look with vain satisfaction upon the outward shows of power, upon the wealth and splendour by which you will be surrounded, upon the submission and often the flattery which will meet you on every hand. Your territories are extensive, their resources great, their population numerous; but let none of these things be your pride; you are young and will be pressed upon on many sides by the temptations to which youth is specially exposed; but never let them gain the mastery over you. You have nobler aims to follow and greater deeds to do. If you would make for yourself a name among the Princes of India you can only win it, in the days in which we live, by the justice of your government and by the acknowledged prosperity of your people. That people's loyalty to your house and to yourself is manifest and unquestioned; it rests with you to preserve it, and, as years go on, to deepen it into the most precious possession of a ruler—the unfeigned love of his subjects. The care of those subjects has not been entrusted to you by God that you may make them the instrument of your pleasure or your pride. He has given them into your care that you may rule and guide them for His glory and their welfare. In their well-being you will find your truest happiness, in their contentment your best security. Set before you no lesser aim; be satisfied with no meaner fame;

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but as you look back over the roll of your ancestors and recall the annals of your house let it be your ambition that when you too shall be gathered to your fathers men should say of you—"He left his people the better for his rule."

And in this great work, difficult and trying as it will often be, I can promise you the constant support and the never-failing assistance of the Government of the Queen-Empress. The single object of the British Government in regard to this or any other Native State is that it should be prosperous and well governed. So far as we can aid you to promote that end you may ever command our help. The maintenance of the Native States of India is a cardinal point of English policy in these days, and the existence of these States is in my judgment of the greatest advantage to English interests. That your Government should be strong and orderly, that your finances should be well managed and your taxation justly raised, and that your nobles should be faithful and your people contented, is, as I well know, the earnest wish of the sovereign whom I represent here to-day. She will watch your career with a strong and unflinching interest; do not disappoint her hopes.

And now, my friend, in whom I shall ever feel a deep personal interest, it only remains for me to place you on that Masnad, and to express my earnest hope that it may please God to bless and guide you, to make your reign prosperous and your rule just and honourable, so that the fair promise of this day may not be blighted, and that future generations of your grateful people may recall the date of your installation as the commencement of a bright era in the history of this State.

[The Viceroy then led the Nizam on to the dais and formally declared him to have attained to the full powers of the State. Mr. Durand (Officiating Foreign Secretary) then read a Persian translation of the Viceroy's address, after which the Nizam, turning to His Excellency, read in a low voice the following:—]

It gives me the greatest pleasure to be able to offer Your Excellencies a very hearty welcome to Hyderabad. It

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would have been to me, and to all my people, a matter of much regret and disappointment if the occasion of my installation had not been graced by Your Excellencies' presence. I am sure we owe this honour to Your Excellencies' well-known solicitude for the welfare of this State, as well as to Your Excellencies' personal kindness to myself, of which I have recently received proof, which I shall never forget. I assure Your Excellencies, I am deeply sensible of both. I hope Your Excellencies will accept my warmest thanks for having incurred the trouble and fatigue of a long journey in order to honour me on the present occasion. The event augurs well for the future of my Government, and I accept it joyfully as a fresh token of the amicable and kindly relations which have always subsisted between the British Government and my predecessors in this State. The advice which Your Excellency has been kind enough to offer me I accept with the greatest sincerity. I shall ever endeavour, in all matters that concern the prospects and prosperity of this State, to consult the wishes of Your Excellency and of the Government of which Your Excellency is the honoured head. I am sure that in doing so I shall be consulting the best interests of myself and of my subjects. I hope Your Excellency will take an early opportunity of conveying to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of India the sentiments of friendship and devotion which I entertain towards Her Imperial throne.

[A splendid sabre having large diamonds in the hilt was then buckled on the Nizam by the Viceroy. The Governor of Madras advanced to the dais and congratulated the Nizam. Sir Donald Stewart and Sir Frederick Roberts also offered him their congratulations, and the proceedings being brought to a close, the Viceroy left the Palace in procession as he had entered it.]

BANQUET AT HYDERABAD TO THE VICEROY.

[ON the evening of the 5th February the Nizam entertained the 5th Feb. 1884. Viceroy, Mr. Grant Duff, Sir Donald Stewart, Sir F. Roberts, and about three hundred other guests, at a banquet in the Palace at Hyderabad. There was a large number of ladies present, including Mrs. and Miss Grant Duff, Lady Keyes, Lady Anne Blunt, etc. Sir Salar Jung, Nawab Khoorshed Jah, the Peshkar, and other Hyderabad nobles were also among the guests. The Palace gardens were beautifully illuminated, one especially, in which was situated a large lake, making a fairy scene, which by general consent surpassed anything of the kind hitherto seen in any European capital. The dinner was served on a long line of tables, in a gallery so long that it was impossible to see from end to end. During dinner the Viceroy sat on the Nizam's right hand.

After the toast of "The Queen-Empress" had been proposed by the Nizam, the Viceroy rose to propose the health of the Nizam, and in doing so spoke as follows :—]

Your Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I have a toast to propose to you which will not need more than a few words from me to recommend it to your acceptance. The occasion is not one for making speeches, and the toast that I have to offer to you is one which, I am sure, will meet with a cordial reception from you, for I am about to ask you to drink to the health of His Highness the Nizam. (*Cheers.*) It is not only that we may express our thanks to His Highness for the princely and magnificent hospitality with which he has entertained us this evening, but it is far more that we may take this opportunity of assuring him how heartily we pray that it may please God to grant him a long life and a prosperous and happy reign (*cheers*), and that that personal government which he has taken upon himself to-day may be as successful as, I am confident, we all desire that it should be.

The toast was drunk with cheers.

His Highness the Nizam briefly returned thanks, and proposed the health of His Excellency the Viceroy and Lady Ripon.

Banquet at Hyderabad to the Viceroy.

The Viceroy replied :—

Your Highness,—I am very grateful to you for having proposed my health and that of Lady Ripon upon this occasion. As I said to Your Highness this morning in darbar, it has been to me a source of very great pleasure to be able to be here upon an occasion of such great historical interest, because it is the first occasion upon which Her Majesty's representative in India has visited Hyderabad, and also because of the interesting event which has occurred to-day, in respect to which we all entertain a deep and earnest desire that Your Highness' reign thus begun may be continued prosperously to the end. (*Cheers.*) I can assure Your Highness that so long as I hold the office which I now fill, it will be my constant desire to afford to you and to your Government every help and assistance in my power, and I am quite sure that you will receive from the Resident here, Mr. Cordery (*loud cheers*), the best advice and the most constant support both to Your Highness and to your Government. (*Continued cheers.*)

I greatly regret that Lady Ripon is not able to be present to-night. Unfortunately she met with a slight accident two days ago, which, although not of a serious character, has prevented her accompanying me. I should regret her absence under any circumstances, but I regret it the more for her sake, because she has lost one of the most beautiful sights which it has ever been my good fortune to witness. (*Cheers.*)

[The Viceroy, the Nizam, and the guests then proceeded to a spacious verandah in the courtyard to witness the fireworks, which were very fine. His Excellency left the palace about 11 o'clock, and drove back to Bolaram. The city, public buildings, gardens, and mosques were brilliantly illuminated, the Char Minar in the centre of the city, with its graceful minarets indicated by lines of innumerable coloured lights, standing out above the surrounding buildings with an effect that, seen from a distance, seemed magical.]

ADDRESSES FROM THE NATIVE RESIDENTS AND
MAHOMEDAN COMMUNITY OF SECUNDERABAD.

[Before the Viceroy left Hyderabad two deputations waited on 8th Feb. 1884. him with addresses of welcome, one on behalf of the Native Residents of the Secunderabad Cantonment, and the other on behalf of the Mahomedan Community of Secunderabad. His Excellency received the two deputations together at the Residency at Bolaram, the address from the Native Residents being read first. This address brought to His Excellency's notice the want of a proper water system for the Secunderabad Cantonment, the necessity for a Municipal Committee, and the advisability of separating the civil from the criminal jurisdiction and of nominating a separate judge for each; the desirability of appointing a Judicial Assistant to the Resident with similar powers as was the case in other Native States was also suggested. The Mahomedan address referred with gratitude to the many beneficent acts of Lord Ripon's administration, mentioning particularly the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, the encouragement given to Indian trade, and His Excellency's desire to promote the extension of elementary education among the people. A hope was also expressed that, under His Excellency's Government, the Mahomedans would regain the social and political position which, from causes beyond their control, they had been losing as compared with other races. Both addresses referred with gratitude to the part which His Excellency had taken in the installation of the Nizam.]

Lord Ripon replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I am very much obliged to you for the address which you have presented to me, and I am very glad to have this opportunity of meeting you. I observe with great satisfaction the expressions of loyalty and attachment to the Queen-Empress which are contained in the general address of the inhabitants of the Cantonment of Secunderabad, and I shall take care that these expressions are made known in the proper quarter. You, gentlemen, who represent the general interests of the cantonment, have brought under my notice three important questions affecting those interests. As you will at once perceive, they are matters of much importance upon which

Addresses from the Native Community of Secunderabad.

it would be impossible for me, and upon which it would not be right for me, to express any definite opinion without further examination and enquiry. It will be necessary that I should be more fully informed than it is possible for you to inform me in an address of this description, with regard to the actual facts, and the financial considerations connected with some of those proposals, and the statistics by which your statements are supported. I shall therefore hand over this address to my friend Mr. Cordery, who will, I am confident, go carefully into the matter, and will give me the information required, and report to me ; and I think you well know that you may rely upon his impartiality and upon his regard for your interests to ensure that he will carefully examine into these important questions. I am obliged to you, gentlemen, and also to the gentlemen of the Mahomedan community, for the manner in which you have alluded to me personally, and for the expressions which you have used concerning my administration of Her Majesty's dominions in India. I receive these expressions with very great satisfaction, and I tender to you my best thanks for them, and also on behalf of Lady Ripon. I must thank you for the way in which you have spoken of her, and I shall let her know what you have said. I am sorry that she is not quite well to-day, and is therefore unable to be present, but I am sure that she will be grateful to you for your kind expressions regarding her.

Gentlemen,—I wish to say a few words with reference to the address presented on behalf of the Mahomedan community of Secunderabad ; and, in the first place, let me assure you that it has been to me a source of great gratification that I have been able to be here on this most interesting occasion, and to take my part, as the representative of the Queen-Empress, in installing His Highness the Nizam upon the Musnud of this State, and I think I may congratulate you and all who are within the limits of

Addresses from the Native Community of Secunderabad.

the Hyderabad State on the promise which His Highness affords that he will make an intelligent and right-thinking ruler, that he will devote himself to the interests of his people, and discharge the responsible duties he has taken upon himself in a manner likely to promote the welfare of the people under his care.

You have alluded to a circumstance which, I am afraid, represents the real condition of Mahomedans in many parts of India. There are various causes which have perhaps led to your having somewhat lost ground in this country now for a considerable number of years, but I am very glad to find that you and other members of the Mahomedan community recognise that fact, and I am quite sure that, once recognised, you will use your utmost endeavours that it should be a fact no longer. And allow me to say, with reference to the next paragraph of your address, that there is no means by which you can more effectually remove any sense of inequality, if I may use the expression, with regard to your present status than by devoting yourselves earnestly to the work of education. If you will, on your part, do all that lies in your power to promote education among the Mahomedans upon a basis suited to your religious and social feelings, you will take the most effectual measure to place yourselves among the populations of India on a footing of perfect equality in all respects with other races in Her Majesty's Indian dominions.

Gentlemen,—I need not detain you longer. I am very glad to have had this opportunity of meeting you and of learning your wishes and views. I can assure you that my visit to Hyderabad has afforded me very great satisfaction. I do not think that in the whole of my life I ever witnessed a more beautiful scene than that presented on Tuesday last at His Highness' Palace, and I feel sure that during the rest of my life I shall never witness anything like it again. I shall carry away with me very pleasant recollections of all I have seen, and I can only say that it will ever

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be my earnest prayer that God will bless His Highness and the State of Hyderabad.

Gentlemen (turning to the Native Residents of Secunderabad),—Before I conclude I must thank you for the handsome case in which you have presented your address. I have received many addresses in many kinds of boxes, but I have never seen anything more tasteful than that which contains your address.

[A poem in Urdu, written in honour of the Viceroy's visit, was then chanted by the author, one of the Mahomedan deputation, and the proceedings terminated.]

PRESIDENCY COLLEGE, MADRAS.

12th Feb. 1884. [Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Ripon left Hyderabad at noon on the 8th February, by special train for Madras, where they arrived on the following day. On Tuesday evening the Viceroy, accompanied by Mr. Grant Duff, Mr. H. W. Primrose, the Rev. H. S. Kerr, and other members of His Excellency's staff, visited the Presidency College, where he received a hearty reception from the students, who presented him with an address of welcome, to which His Excellency replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I am very glad indeed to have this opportunity of visiting this institution. I thank you heartily for the cordial reception which you have given to me. You say that this is the first occasion upon which any Viceroy of India has visited the Presidency College of Madras. (*Cheers.*) If that be so, it must have been owing to some untoward accident, or it must be a proof of very good fortune that it should be reserved for me to be the first Viceroy to come and visit you here in your own Presidency Town. (*Cheers.*) And certainly this at least I may venture to say, that no Viceroy who has preceded me has felt a deeper interest in the subject of education than I have. (*Cheers.*) The question has engaged my attention now for more years than I like to recall, and I find that

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there is as much—nay more by a great deal—to do in India for the furtherance of education than remains to be done in England. I fully recognise the services which this institution has rendered to the cause of education in the past, and I share the hopes, expressed in this address, as to the future career which lies before the Presidency College. (*Cheers.*) You have alluded, gentlemen, to some of the measures of the Government of India since I have had the honour to be at the head of it. It has always seemed to me that the increase which is going on continually in the number of educated natives in this country—the well-trained men which this and other institutions are turning out from year to year—indeed, I may say, from day to day—renders their advance in many directions not only desirable but necessary; and that conviction has been one of the key-notes of the policy which I have endeavoured to pursue since I came to this country. (*Cheers.*) It is true, as you say in your address, that, at the present moment, the attention of the Government of India is especially directed to the question of elementary education, but, if that be so, it is not because we have lost our interest in higher and middle education (*cheers*); it is because we observe that much has been done in those branches of instruction, and that too little, in our conviction, has been done in the matter of elementary education. For surely it must be plain to all that, as higher and middle education advances, it is both politic and right that the blessings of that education should be, as far as possible, extended to the masses of the people. (*Cheers.*) I look upon the extension of elementary or primary education as a necessary corollary of that higher education for which I am proud to think England has done so much in this and in other parts of India. (*Cheers.*)

Gentlemen,—I will not detain you longer now. I thank you very much for the address which you have presented

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to me. I can assure you that it is a great source of regret to Lady Ripon not to be able to be with me to-day. Unfortunately she has been unwell during the last few days, otherwise it would have given her great pleasure to have accompanied me. (*Loud cheers.*)

CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, MADRAS.

12th Feb. 1884. [After leaving the Presidency College His Excellency visited the Senate House and St. Mary's Church in the Fort, and thence proceeded to the Christian College, where an address was read by the Rev. W. Miller on behalf of the professors and students of the College, to which His Excellency gave the following reply:—]

Mr. Miller and Gentlemen,—It affords me much pleasure to visit this institution on this occasion. No one knows better than my friend Mr. Miller the present state of public education in India, for he has taken a leading and valuable part, which I am very happy to have this opportunity of recognising here in his own College, in the labours of the Education Commission which has just sent in its report. You, therefore, Mr. Miller, are well aware that although, as you have truly said, primary education is the special object of the Government of India, it has all along been the intention and policy of the Government of India that primary, secondary, and higher education should work and proceed forward together. What we have felt is this, that the work of education in India—that which still remains to be done to spread instruction throughout this vast land—is a work of such magnitude that, at present at all events, its complete accomplishment is beyond the power even of the British Government. Nothing would be easier than to spend many millions in the promotion of education if only we had those millions; but we have them not, and could not obtain them without resorting to a system of taxation which would be unpalatable to the people

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of this country, and unjust to them in their present position. Therefore we look with the greatest confidence to be assisted in this great work by private effort, and a special reason why I rejoice to be here to-day is that I may express my thanks to the managers of this institution for the valuable work they have done as a private institution in the great cause of education in the Presidency of Madras. (*Cheers.*) The Government will do its part; but, as I have said, that part, for many years to come, must necessarily be limited, and therefore we do call upon all those who have the interests of education at heart, whether private individuals, or great nobles, or religious societies, or municipalities, throughout the country,—we do call upon them to take their share in this great work, for surely there is no work in these days in which a man may be more justly proud to have had a hand than the work of public education. (*Cheers.*) And therefore I rejoice to think that you have so rightly interpreted the purpose of my visit here as to say you look upon it as an encouragement to all private persons and private associations which are labouring for the promotion of education in the Empire. Time presses, and I have still much to do before the evening closes. You will, therefore, not think it due on my part to any want of interest in your undertaking if I bring my observations to a close. But before I do so, I must thank you very heartily for the proposal you have made in your address to establish a gold medal to be annually given to the student who takes his bachelor's degree with the highest honours in English literature, and I shall be most happy and proud to have my name connected with that medal. (*Cheers.*) I am convinced that the spread of knowledge of the English language and literature in India is a matter of the first importance. You hold a distinguished place here in Madras in a knowledge of English, which I believe is more widely spread among the people generally of this Presidency than in any other part

Deputations at Madras.

of India. Nothing tends to bind together Englishmen and natives more than a knowledge of their respective languages. Therefore it seems peculiarly appropriate that in entertaining these sentiments you should connect my name with this medal for proficiency in English. I thank you for the kind reception you have given me. I am very glad to be here to-day, and heartily wish every prosperity to this institution. (*Cheers.*)

[A copy of the address, printed upon parchment, in a leather case, was presented to His Excellency, with a handsomely framed card, upon which was printed the following :—

“Nec Tamen Consumeatur.

“To His Excellency the Most Honourable the Marquis of Ripon, K.G.C.P., &c., Viceroy of India. Presented by the professors and students of the Madras Christian College, in token of their love, loyalty, and gratitude.”

DEPUTATIONS AT MADRAS.

13th Feb. 1884. [At 10 A.M. on the morning of the 13th February, a number of deputations from various parts of the Madras Presidency waited on the Viceroy, and presented him with addresses. The addresses dealt with a large variety of subjects, many of which will be apparent from His Excellency's replies. The deputations which were received by Lord Ripon in the large reception room at Government House, Guindy, came on behalf of—

The inhabitants of Bellary.

” ” ” Malabar.

The Members of the Anjuman-i-Islamiah.

The Inhabitants of Mayaveran.

The Tanjore Peoples' Association.

The Inhabitants of Negapatam.

” ” ” Salem.

” ” ” Coimbatore.

” ” ” Tanjore.

” ” ” Madura.

The Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association.

The Native Community of Madras.

The whole of some, and parts of others of the addresses were read, and one or two were taken as read. His Excellency, with whom were

Deputations at Madras.

Mr. Grant Duff and Mr. H. W. Primrose, replied simultaneously to the first six addresses on the above list in the following terms :—]

Gentlemen,—I am very glad to have this opportunity of meeting so many representatives of the native community from various parts of the Madras Presidency, and of learning the views which they entertain with regard to questions largely affecting their interests and their prosperity. You will not, however, I am confident, expect that I should reply to all the points which have been touched upon in your various addresses in detail. I preferred to reserve any observations which I had to make upon these addresses until they had all been read; for if I had answered them separately, I should only have been repeating myself from time to time, for the general observations which they contain are, as might naturally be expected, of a similar character. You, gentlemen, in those addresses have passed over a very wide field of observation. You have spoken of questions of a purely local character in some cases, and you have touched also upon many large and important subjects of general policy. With regard to the purely local questions to which you have alluded, you will readily understand that my information is necessarily imperfect, but I am happy to feel that all that concerns your local interests is in the best possible hands, because, having known now for many years my Right Honourable friend the Governor of this Presidency, I know well that you, like myself, may place the most complete confidence, both in his high intelligence and in his strong sense of justice, and I know that, under his wise and beneficent rule, your local interests will obtain all that attention which is desirable on the part of the representative of the British Government in this Presidency.

With regard to the more general questions upon which you have touched, I do not propose now to enter in any detail. Some of them are very large and important, and of no inconsiderable difficulty. Your observations shall, I

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assure you, receive my most full and careful consideration. I consider it a subject of congratulation that I have had this opportunity of meeting you, and of hearing what you desire to say to me, but you would not, I am sure, expect that I should prematurely commit myself upon the many important questions upon which you have touched. For instance, some of the suggestions which you have offered, very reasonable in themselves, involve very important financial considerations, and for my own part I feel strongly that where financial considerations are concerned, at all events in India, many a useful and important reform, desirable in theory, must necessarily be postponed until the Government is in a position to find the financial means which may be required for carrying it out; because I shrewdly suspect that there are not many present on this occasion who would be very much pleased if I were to tell them that the Government of India was going to impose a number of new taxes with the object of carrying out reforms. I confess I do not know where those new sources of taxation are to be found, and certainly, speaking for myself, I am very little inclined, except in cases of great necessity, to impose any fresh burdens upon the people. I know very well that there are many things of the greatest importance which must on this account be postponed. You have alluded to the subject of education. Well, I could spend millions upon education if I had the millions to spend; but I do not feel quite sure that if I was to increase the land revenue, or impose a large income tax, or devise some new sources of taxation of that or any other description, that you would greet me with the great kindness with which you have greeted me on this occasion, and therefore we must act according to the old saying which is common in England that "a man must cut his coat according to his cloth." The cloth of the Government of India (that is to say, its revenue), in this matter of reform, is limited, and we must cut our administrative coat according to the cloth

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which we are able to extract with justice from the country ; and you must recollect, gentlemen, that you and others, when you want something done, should not come to the Government of India and say "you ought to do it," and speak as if you thought that the revenue of India was altogether to come out of the pockets of the Government itself. In reality it is nothing of the kind. The revenue comes out of your own pockets, and therefore it is your money that we spend. I believe that the root of all good government, whether in the East or in the West, lies in a sound financial system ; and although no man is more anxious for reforms than I am, and more desirous to advance in the path of progress—provided that advance is steady and sure, and that at each step we make that step good and do not look too hastily forward to make another step until the present step is firmly secure—nevertheless I feel that those reforms must not be pushed forward at a rate which would be inconsistent with the financial conditions of the country, and which would tend to impose burdens upon it which, in the present state of things, it is unable to bear. I am glad to say that in many respects I find that the financial condition of India is more prosperous than at one time I had reason to suppose it would be—that is to say, the revenue is of a more expanding and increasing character. At the present moment, indeed, it so happens that we are, in one unfortunate circumstance, very badly off, and I am afraid that when my friend Sir Auckland Colvin makes his financial statement, you will find that there will be very little money at the disposal of the Government of India—a state of things which has resulted from the opium crop having fallen very short of its usual average last year.

In your addresses you have also naturally alluded to a reduction of taxation, and you have spoken of a further reduction of the salt tax. I should be glad myself to see the day when a further reduction might be made. I am

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happy to say that the reduction which was made two years ago has been attended with much success, and exactly that kind of success which Sir Evelyn Baring and I myself had anticipated. We were told at the time by a great many people, and by some native and European organs of public opinion, that we were making a great mistake in reducing the salt tax, that nobody wanted it reduced, and that we were simply throwing away our revenue. Now the fact of the matter is that from the time the reduction was made the revenue began to recoup itself, and I am happy to say we are approaching, as rapidly as we could expect, the period when we shall get from the lower duty an amount of revenue equal to that which we obtained from the higher duty. When we reach that point, then we shall be able to consider a further reduction of that branch of our financial resources. But all these things for the improvement of our financial position necessarily place a limit upon what we can do in regard to education and administrative improvement in the various other directions touched upon in these addresses. I have thought it right to make these general observations in order that I may ask you always to bear in mind that there are two sides to a great number of these questions, and that there are many things, in themselves most desirable to be effected, which cannot be effected at the present moment without an amount of expenditure which it would be quite unfair to ask the people to bear.

Gentlemen,—It has been a great pleasure to me to have received the cordial welcome which has been accorded to me in Southern India, and I shall carry away with me the most agreeable recollections of my visit to Madras. That you should have come to me from all parts of the country in such numbers, and represented your views to me so frankly, affords me very great gratification. I do not promise that I will do all you ask me to do. I am not accustomed to make promises which I do not intend to fulfil; but this at least I can promise, that what you have said

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shall receive my most careful consideration, for I feel it a great advantage to me and to my colleagues to learn the views of the people of this country in frank intercourse, such as has taken place between us here to-day ; and I shall take these addresses with me, not merely as addresses of compliment to be laid aside with a few words of thanks, but as addresses to be studied and considered at leisure, in order that I may make myself fully acquainted with the wishes and requirements of the people of this part of the country.

APPEAL FROM THE INHABITANTS OF SALEM, MADRAS.

[To the deputation on behalf of the inhabitants of Salem, who 13th Feb. 1884. presented an address in which an appeal was made for the release of certain prisoners convicted of rioting and murder, &c., His Excellency replied :—]

Gentlemen,—I have already received and examined a copy of the address which you have just presented to me. It is not unnatural that you should desire to do all in your power on behalf of those of your friends and neighbours who are now undergoing punishment for a criminal offence of which they have been found guilty. At the same time, you must have been fully aware that it would be impossible for me, as the head of the Executive Government, to interfere with the decisions of the highest Courts in this Presidency upon a question which has been very fully examined by them, and upon which a deliberate decision has been pronounced. The question is strictly one of a judicial character, and with the judicial decisions of the highest tribunals it is inconsistent with the public duty of the Government to interfere, unless there are circumstances of a peculiarly exceptional character which may render from time to time the exercise of the power of pardon desirable. I am therefore—though I regret to refuse your request—bound to tell you that in this case I must abide by the decision of those constituted judicial

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authorities who have examined this question thoroughly. The offence with which these persons have been charged is one of a very grave character. It is one of the first duties of the Government of India in this country, where religious animosity at times runs very high, and where there are many different religious bodies, firmly and determinedly to preserve the public peace, and to put down unhesitatingly anything in the nature of disturbances arising from differences of religious opinions. The case of these persons has been carefully examined by the courts, and, as I have said, I cannot re-open it or pronounce any opinion of my own upon it. If you look forward to a time when the sentences that have been pronounced might come under the re-consideration of the local Government, the best course that can be taken in order to hasten the advent of that period is, that there should be a complete re-establishment of peace and tranquillity and good fellowship in the district in which these unhappy occurrences took place; because the establishment of that peace and mutual harmony between men of different religious opinions is an essential preliminary to any consideration on the part of the Government in cases such as this. Gentlemen, I can assure you that it is to me a painful duty, because I know how deeply interested you must be in the fate of your friends and neighbours, to have to give, unhesitatingly, an unfavorable answer to your address, but while I am ever ready to consider the wishes of any important section of the community in this country, when the fulfilment of those wishes would be consistent with my public duty, I am no less determined upon all occasions to fulfil that duty impartially, and to deal honestly and truly with you, and, as I cannot in this case meet your request, to tell you so in terms regarding which there can be no mistake.

ADDRESS FROM THE EURASIAN AND ANGLO-INDIAN
ASSOCIATION, MADRAS.

[To the address from the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Association, 13th Feb. 1884. which was read by Mr. White, the President, the Viceroy replied :—]

Mr. White and Gentlemen,—I thank you much for your address. I am very glad to have received this account of the character and work of your Association. The name of the Association and the general purposes for which it has been established are not unknown to me, but I had not before me so full an account of the character of its labours and the various objects it has in view as that which is contained in your address. I need not, I am certain, assure you that those objects have my most full and cordial sympathy, and that I shall at all times do anything in my power to promote the happiness and prosperity of the community which you represent.

With respect to the question of the schools to be established in Mysore territory, I have not yet received any official application upon the subject. I do not know whether one has been sent in, but if it has I have not yet seen it. I can assure you, however, that if an application is made through the proper official channel, it shall receive my most careful consideration. I should have been glad if I had been in a position to make a definite statement to you on the present occasion in respect to the Resolution of the Government of India, passed some time ago, with regard to admission to the Engineering Colleges, and which has I know been the subject of much discussion and of dissatisfaction among the community which you represent. The Government of India is in communication with the Secretary of State upon the subject, and I had hoped that a final decision might have been arrived at before this time, and that that decision might have been made known to the public, but that is unfortunately not the case. I

Address from the Native Community of Madras.

think you are aware that the Government of India in this matter has acted under the orders of successive Secretaries of State. The question is one, therefore, with which we cannot deal apart from the Government at home. As soon as the matter is brought to a conclusion, and a decision arrived at, it will be communicated to the public, and I shall be glad indeed if it is of a nature to give satisfaction to the members of your community.

ADDRESS FROM THE NATIVE COMMUNITY OF MADRAS.

13th Feb. 1884. [To the address from the Native Community of Madras His Excellency replied:—]

Gentlemen,—I am very glad to have had this opportunity of meeting so many representatives of the native community of the city of Madras, and of learning, from the address which you have just presented, your views upon many important public questions. Those questions range over a wide extent of topics, and you will not, I am confident, expect that I should reply to each of them in detail. I look upon it as a great advantage that I, as the head of the Government of India, should have had this opportunity of learning from you, and others in this Presidency, the views which you entertain upon public matters. Those views will receive my most careful consideration. Of course you cannot expect me, on the spur of the moment, to give you a reply on the various points upon which you have touched, and I need only assure you that they will receive every consideration from myself and my colleagues. I would say, generally, that I think it is a wise policy—and certainly one that I desire to pursue—that when the Government is proceeding in a course of administrative and political progress, it should be very careful to make good each step that it takes, and that it

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should not endeavour to advance too rapidly and so run the risk of not placing its successful measures upon a sure and solid foundation. You have been pleased in this address, and more specially in that which you presented to me on my arrival in this city,¹ to express approval of many of the measures of my administration. My first object before I leave this country is to see those measures placed upon a solid foundation, upon which those who come after me may be able to build and to take some further steps in the direction in which I myself desire to go. But the great thing in your interests is that each of those steps should be securely made, and I am much inclined to follow the example of that well-known animal, the elephant, and to look at the ground over which I am crossing, very carefully, to see where I am placing my foot, and to take care that as I put it down I do not slip backwards in the course in which I am proceeding. (*Applause.*)

Gentlemen,—There are some of the topics dealt with in your address upon which I am not at present in a position to express an opinion, because, though worthy of consideration, they have not yet received that consideration at my hands and those of my colleagues which would enable me to pronounce a definite opinion upon them. But upon one or two points I should like to say a few words. You have alluded to the arrangements under which persons are now admitted to the Covenanted Civil Service, and you express a strong desire that the existing limit of age, which was reduced some years ago, should again be raised. The subject is one which I frankly admit is well deserving of consideration. As you are aware, the matter was originally dealt with by the Secretary of State, and can only now be dealt with in communication with the Government at home; but I have no hesitation in saying that, so far as my own individual

¹ See page 148.

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judgment goes, it is one that well deserves the consideration of Her Majesty's Government. With respect to the mode of appointment of the statutory civilians, I am in a position to say that that question is about to be taken up and considered by the Government of India in communication with the local Governments. I do not think it would be desirable to continue the present system of appointing what are called statutory civilians; in itself the scheme of statutory civilians was undoubtedly a step in the right direction, as it admitted natives more largely to public employment; but it seems to me that the mode by which persons are selected for those appointments is capable of improvement. I think that the experience which has been gained since the system was established points in that direction, and the Government of India are about to consult local Governments upon the subject, in order to ascertain the views they entertain, and I trust it may be in my power, before my period of administration comes to an end, to make some improvement in the system by which statutory civilians are at present chosen. Then, gentlemen, you have touched upon a large and very important question—the question of the separation of judicial and executive functions. I suppose there are few persons who would not hold with you in theory that such separation is highly desirable. Its complete attainment is in reality a question of money; it is a question of a good deal of money, and therefore intimately tied up with financial considerations, and those considerations are, in my opinion, matters of primary importance. I do not want to add to the taxation of the country. I do not suppose you particularly want to be taxed more than you are taxed at present. I, for my part, should be very glad to see a reduction of taxation if it were possible at the present time, but I believe that a solid financial system is of the first importance to all Governments; and believing that a fair and equitable system of taxation is almost one of the most important poli-

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tical matters, I cannot make any promise in respect to this or any other subject which might involve a large addition of expenditure, even though I am ready to admit that the direction in which you desire to travel is the right one. There are many things which I would wish to do, and many reforms which I should be glad to carry out, but which must be postponed till the time comes when the increasing prosperity of the country will afford the means of undertaking them. There are, however, some subjects which it may be possible for the Government to consider. In the report of the Select Committee which has recently been sent in upon the Criminal Procedure Bill, there is a passage which points to some legislative subjects which bear upon the question to which you have drawn my attention. As I stated the other day in the Legislative Council in Calcutta, such a report coming from such a Committee deserves, and will receive, careful consideration. We shall consult local Governments on the subject, and I shall be glad if we find that it is in our power to make any advance in the direction recommended by that report.

Gentlemen,—You have referred to the question of appointing Honorary Magistrates in the city of Madras; that of course is a purely local question, which I may well leave to the consideration of my Right Honourable friend the Governor, who, I am quite sure, will take such steps with regard to it as shall be most conducive to the general interests of the public.

I am glad to find from your address that you have a better appreciation than appears to exist in some quarters of the real policy of the Government of India in respect to education. Considerable errors have sprung up in the public mind in some parts, and have found reflection in some of the addresses which have been presented to me since I came to Madras, as if it was thought that it was the intention of the Government, in order to be able to do more in the direction of primary education, to check or

Address from the Native Community of Madras.

limit higher education in this country. I am glad to find that you understand that that is not the intention of the Government, and I hope that when the final orders of Government are given upon the Report of the Education Commission (which they cannot be for some time yet), you will find that those who are deeply interested in the cause of higher education—with whom I entirely sympathise—will have no cause to complain of the course which we may ultimately determine to take.

Gentlemen,—I will not detain you longer. I shall take away this address with me, and shall not fail hereafter carefully to examine it again, and consider the various points which you have raised in it. I can only repeat that I am very glad to have had this opportunity of meeting you and receiving an expression of your views. It is a great advantage to a Government, situated like the Government of India, and which has not at its disposal those regular channels for learning the views of the people which exist in most European countries, to have such opportunities as this of freely communicating with the people and of being made acquainted with their wishes. It was with that object that the Government with which I am connected took measures to remove those shackles from the Press which I found existing when I came to India, and I am therefore very glad to have had this opportunity of conferring with those most able to represent the feelings, wants, and interests of the general community of this Presidency.

[The deputation then withdrew. At 2 o'clock in the afternoon Their Excellencies and party embarked on board the *Clive* and sailed for Trincomalee *en route* for Calcutta.]

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES AT THE BARRACKPORE PARK SCHOOL.

[On Saturday afternoon, the 1st March, the Viceroy distributed the prizes to the boys of the Barrackpore Park School, numbering 172. The proceedings took place on the lawn near Government House, and among those present were Her Excellency Lady Ripon, Mr. H. W. Primrose, Mr. Clarke, Inspector of Schools, Presidency Division, the Revd. Mr. Orton, &c. The Head Master read the annual report, and some recitations by the boys followed, after which His Excellency addressed the boys as follows :—] 1st March 1884.

I will now just say a few words to you, and I do so with great pleasure upon this occasion, because I am able to congratulate you heartily upon the report which has been read at the commencement of these proceedings. When we were assembled here last year, the report which was then laid before us contained some observations in respect to a certain falling off which had taken place in this school during the year just then passed, and which had resulted, to some extent at all events, from the establishment of a new school in this neighbourhood, at Nawabgunge, which, at its first inception, had, as was natural, somewhat interfered with the numbers and prosperity of the Barrackpore School. I ventured then to say that if you would only set your shoulders to the wheel and work hard during the twelve months then before you so as to keep up and, if possible, raise the reputation of the school, I had very little doubt that you would find that competition of your friendly rival would in no respect injure you, and I had every hope that now, or in some future year, I, or whoever might preside on this occasion, would be able to offer you their congratulations upon a complete restoration of the prosperity of this school. I am very glad indeed that one short year should have fulfilled that prophesy, and that I am now able to offer you my best congratulations upon the fact that

Distribution of Prizes at the Barrackpore Park School.

during the course of that year you have altogether, as it seems to me, regained any loss which the school might have incurred during the previous twelve months, and that you have shown that I was right in supposing that there was ample space for two schools in this neighbourhood.

It is also a great pleasure to me to observe the success which has attended you this year in the Entrance Examination. If the change made by me last year in the nature of the prize which I offered to this school has had anything to do with that result, it is to me particularly gratifying. You have shown what you can do in the past twelve months. Eight boys went up for examination, and five succeeded, one in the first, two in the second, and two in the third Division. I am well pleased with that result, and I hope you will do even better on a future occasion. I think this is a clear proof that the form of prize which I suggested last year was a judicious one, and therefore I propose, for the coming twelve months, to offer a prize of the same description. But not only has success attended you in the Entrance Examination; your numbers have increased from 150 to 172—not a large increase certainly, but still nothing could afford better proof that the school is prospering than that its numbers should go on increasing, and I hope that a further increase will take place during the year on which we are now entering.

I am very glad also to learn that you have got a fair Entrance Class preparing for the coming twelve months. The room in which that class, according to the report, is assembled is doubtless small and confined; I quite approve of the proposal to make an effort to increase the accommodation, and although I cannot tell you at this moment the precise sum which I shall be able to contribute for that purpose, I have no hesitation in saying that the object is a good one and that I shall certainly send a contribution to it.

Distribution of Prizes at the Barrackpore Park School.

My young friends, I need say nothing to exhort you to make the utmost use of the advantages which this school affords. I have done so on previous occasions, and it is very pleasant and gratifying to me to find, from the nature of the report read to-day, that you have listened to what I have said and have done your best to profit by the instruction here given to you, and to maintain and raise the reputation of your school. Go on in that direction, and you will benefit yourselves and do credit to this institution. You cannot do better than lay to heart the lessons which are contained in that beautiful poem of Longfellow's which has been so well recited to us—"Life is real, life is earnest." Boyhood no doubt is often a time of pleasure, and I should be the last man to wish to damp for a moment your joys or to interfere with your amusements; but remember that a very real and earnest life lies before you, and that the time which you spend at school is the time during which you should prepare yourselves to discharge the duties and meet the difficulties of that coming life. That you may acquit yourselves like men in the battle of life is my earnest wish, and if I have, during the time that I have been here, been able to promote that object, it will be always, I assure you, a source of great pleasure to me.

ST. JOSEPH'S PATRONAGE, CALCUTTA.

5th March 1884

[On Wednesday evening, the 5th March, at half past six, the Viceroy, accompanied by the Rev. H. S. Kerr, and Capt. Burn, A.-D.-C., visited St. Joseph's Patronage in Kyd Street. His Excellency was received at the Home by His Grace Archbishop Goethals and other gentlemen of the Committee of Management who conducted him upstairs where a number of visitors and the young men of the Patronage were assembled. On His Excellency taking his seat "a song of welcome" was sung by the young men, and an address read explaining the object of the institution. That object, briefly stated, is to provide, at a very moderate charge to each of them, a home for boys who are orphans, or whose parents are not in a position to maintain them after they have left school and started in life on small salaries; to keep them away from temptations and evil associations, and to provide, them with employment, whenever possible, in dockyards, workshops, and similar institutions. The expenditure on the Home is met by (1) fees from the inmates; (2) Archbishop Goethals' subscription of Rs. 100 monthly; and (3) by subscriptions from the public and grants from the general fund of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The Viceroy in replying to the address spoke as follows:—]

Your Grace and Gentlemen,—It is, I assure you, very pleasant to me to be able to visit this institution before I leave Calcutta for this season. I, when at home, took a very deep interest in the Patronage work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in England, and I was a member of the Committee which was entrusted with the management of that work. It is, therefore, very natural that I should feel an equal interest in what is being done to carry on a similar work in Calcutta, having had ample opportunity when in England of judging of the value of such institutions in large towns where great populations are gathered together. Your address, for which I heartily thank you, has very truly and accurately described the necessity for an institution of this kind, and it has always seemed to me that no work could be more consonant with the spirit of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul than this Patronage

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work. That certainly is the view taken of the matter by those who are at the head of the Society throughout the world, and as all know who have read the reports of the Society in France, a great deal has been done in this direction in Paris, where they have a very large and important institution connected with their Patronage work. We, in England, have not been able in any degree to rival them; for, naturally enough, where the Catholic population is so much smaller than it is in France, we have not the same means of doing what has been done in Paris. What we have done in England has been done from small commencements, and I am very glad to find that you in Calcutta, in so short a time, are beginning very rapidly to tread on our heels, and have done almost as much in a few months as we in England had been able to do after the work had been a considerable time in existence. It seems to me that the Council of your Society here were most wise in taking up this work. I am quite sure that no branch of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul can be said to be complete unless it is engaged in a work of this kind, and our thanks are due to Your Grace for the countenance which you gave to the undertaking when it was originally proposed, and for the cordial and hearty support which you have given to it since. Our thanks are also due to those concerned in the management of the work—to Brother John, and Brother Philip, who is a director of this institution. (*Applause.*) Having determined to establish an institution of this kind you certainly seem to have set to work to carry out the undertaking with determination and with remarkable vigour, and the results attending your efforts have been marked by great success so far as you have gone. As you truly say, that you should, in the space of a few months, have increased the number of inmates by no less than a hundred per cent., is proof of the energy of those who have conducted the affairs of this institution, and also of the very pressing need of an establishment of

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this kind. I am particularly glad to hear that, both with regard to the health and conduct of the inmates of this institution, everything has proceeded in the most satisfactory manner. Heartily, then, do I venture to recommend this institution to the Catholic population of Calcutta. I need not enter into any description of the temptations to which youths, such as those for whom this Home is intended, are exposed in a great city like this. You dwellers in this large town know them only too well ; and I would venture to remind you that those temptations are calculated to deprive young men of all, or at least a great part of the benefits that they may have derived from the educational institutions which exist in this city. No work is more important than the giving of a good religious and secular education to youths in these days ; but if, when their school days are over, they are to be turned loose upon the streets of a great town, exposed to all the dangers that beset them, there is, I think, in many cases too great probability that the work of Catholic education will be brought to nought, and that the instruction which you have laboured to give them with so much zeal and expenditure of money will in many cases be thrown away. Again, I may remind those who are members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul that it is the first and main object of that society to do what they can by individual exertion, to relieve the great seething mass of distress and human misery by which in these days we are surrounded ; but there is something yet better than relieving distress, and that is to take steps which tend to prevent men from falling into distress. We know how much connection there often is between the temptations of life and the distress which follows those temptations, and therefore you are doing a very essential part of the work of this society, when you try to prevent distress by keeping these young men out of these temptations, by giving them the means of honestly earning their livelihood, and by preserving them from the dangers with which they

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are so often beset. (*Applause.*) For these reasons it is very gratifying to me to have been able to come here to-day. It carries me back to work in which I was engaged at home before I came out here. When I get back to England, I shall certainly report to the members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul there what you are doing in respect to this Patronage work here in Calcutta, and if I find that they are not so well ahead as I expect them to be, I shall use your example to spur them on. (*Applause.*) And now, my young friends, let me earnestly beg of you to do your utmost to profit by the advantages which this institution offers to you, and show to the world, by the results which you obtain from your safe residence here, the value of the work which the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is doing in this institution. That society is, as you well know, not a showy institution; its object is not to make a display to the world, but to work quietly, steadily, by individual labour and kindness, among the poorest of the population for their temporal and spiritual benefit, and it looks for its reward to the solid good of the work which it does. Now, my young friends, if you are grateful for the establishment of this institution—if you find here a safe resting-place—a protection from evils into which you might otherwise fall—if you find here the means of an honourable life, the best thing you can do to show your gratitude is to do your utmost to profit by the benefits of this institution, to live honest and virtuous lives, and thus to prove to the world outside what is the true nature of the work of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. (*Applause.*)

[At the close of the proceedings His Excellency announced his intention to give a donation of Rs. 500 towards the funds of the institution.]

CLOSING OF THE CALCUTTA EXHIBITION.

10.3 March 1884. [On Monday afternoon, the 10th March, His Excellency the Viceroy formally closed the Calcutta International Exhibition, in the presence of a large assembly of all classes. The proceedings took place in the quadrangle of the Exhibition, which was also the scene of the opening ceremony in December last. The Viceroy, accompanied by Mr. Rivers Thompson (the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal), Mr. H. W. Primrose, Lord William Beresford, and other members of his staff, arrived at half past four, and was received by the assemblage standing, the band playing the National Anthem. Lord Ripon having taken his seat on the dais, Colonel Trevor opened the proceedings by reading an address on behalf of the Executive Committee. The Lieutenant-Governor then, in a speech of some length, invited the Viceroy to declare the Exhibition closed. Both Mr. Rivers Thompson and the Viceroy were very warmly received when they stood up to speak, His Excellency in addressing the assembly spoke as follows :—]

Mr. Rivers Thompson, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I have much pleasure in complying with the request which has been made to me to take a part in the proceedings of to-day. When Your Honour asked me a few days ago whether I would undertake to perform this closing ceremony, I felt that I was bound to listen to your call, and to comply with the request which you made to me in respect of this matter. It is evident from the statement which you have just made that, upon some grounds, we might all of us have rejoiced if this Exhibition could have been kept open for a longer time, for it seems that it is only recently that its full value has become thoroughly appreciated by the people of this city and neighbourhood, and that therefore it has been able to do that educational work amongst them which was one of its primary objects. But the facts which have been mentioned to me show that the Executive Committee have exercised a necessary discretion, on account of climatic and other considerations, in coming to the conclusion that the time has arrived when this Exhibition ought to be closed; and under those circumstances, I have no hesita-

Closing of the Calcutta Exhibition.

tion in undertaking the duty of declaring that it will be closed this day. Gentlemen of the Executive Committee, I heartily thank you for the address which you have presented to me on this occasion, and I rejoice indeed to find that you are able to state in the address that the career of this Exhibition has been a successful one, and that the statement was fully endorsed by the Lieutenant-Governor; and also to learn from the information which has been afforded to me that, in spite of all the difficulties—and they have been many and considerable—which have beset this undertaking, it has, to a very large extent, fulfilled the expectations which were entertained when it was first commenced. Ladies and gentlemen, I need scarcely tell you that I share to the utmost the gratification which was expressed by the Executive Committee at seeing the Lieutenant-Governor amongst us to-day. (*Cheers.*) His absence cast a gloom over the opening ceremony, and his presence here in restored health will add not a little to the gratification which all those feel who take part in the closing ceremony to-day. I think, all circumstances considered, that we may be well satisfied at the attendance of visitors at this Exhibition. True it is, as you have said, Mr. Rivers Thompson, that if we compare the million of persons who have visited this Exhibition since it was opened, with the vast populations of the whole of India, the number may seem insignificant; but then we must recollect what India is; and we must remember that if any one expected that such a proportion of that population would have attended this Exhibition, as has been found to have been the case in regard to the population of England with English Exhibitions, they must have forgotten the geographical conditions and extent of India. (*Cheers.*) You have spoken, Sir, in eloquent language of the beauty of the Indian Courts of this Exhibition. I can add nothing to what you have said upon the subject, except to say how cordially I agree with the judgment, that you have pronounced. I dare say

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that many visitors from Europe and America, and from Australia, have been surprised to have seen the beauty and the variety of the products of this country, and the many proofs of the artistic skill of the inhabitants of India which those Courts afford. And yet, beautiful as that part of the Exhibition is, and successful as it has been to a great extent, I would venture to express a hope that on some future occasion we may be able to show yet more completely and beautifully all the products of this great land. (*Hear, hear.*) Our thanks are due to those distinguished Native Princes and gentlemen who have sent exhibits to those Courts, and they are due no less to those local officers in every part of the country who have zealously laboured to collect products of their respective districts, and to forward them to the Exhibition. Indeed, if I were to make any criticism upon the Indian Courts, it would be this, that their space was too limited for the objects that were there exhibited, and that those objects were so crowded together in many cases that they could not be adequately seen. There is another Eastern country which has contributed largely upon this occasion to our interest and our pleasure, and I think that all who have visited this Exhibition will agree that one of the most beautiful and interesting Courts in it has been the Japanese Court. We have seen there ample and striking proof of the artistic skill and the graphic power of that remarkable people. For my own part—and I dare say many others will agree with me—I have also felt a very deep interest in the Australian portion of this Exhibition. (*Applause.*) We have seen there marked proof of the progress of those youthful countries, of their varied resources, and of the energy of their people. Our thanks are due to the Governments of those Colonies, and to the public in Australia, for the aid which they have given to make those Courts a success; and our thanks are no less due to those distinguished gentlemen who have come over from the Australian Colonies for what they have done to make

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those Courts attractive and interesting to all who have visited them. (*Applause.*) Like you, Mr. Rivers Thompson, I earnestly hope that the Exhibition of Australian products, and the friendly intercourse which has gone on with Australian gentlemen on this occasion, will not be the only nor the most important result of the Australian portion of this Exhibition ; and I think we may all rejoice to hear from you that there is every reason to believe that the hopes which were expressed when this Exhibition was opened, that it would lead to an extended and more direct trade between Australia and India, are likely to be realised. I venture to say that if it had obtained no other result, it would have been amply worth while to have held this Exhibition. (*Cheers.*) On the opening day it was my pleasing duty to express thanks on behalf of the public to the Executive Committee of this Exhibition under the presidency of Colonel Trevor. Those thanks are still more due now for the labours of those gentlemen, which, during the time that this Exhibition has been opened, have been unremitting, and it is to those labours that its success may be attributed. (*Applause.*) Mr. Joubert has also continued to render his services to the last, and to him our cordial acknowledgments are due. But to-day, as the address of the Executive Committee has reminded us, our thanks are especially to be accorded to another body of gentlemen—to those gentlemen, I mean, who have acted as Jurors upon this occasion. Anybody who knows anything about Exhibitions of this kind knows very well that the functions of a Juror are by no means a sinecure, and are attended occasionally with circumstances which are very far from agreeable. Our thanks are therefore due most cordially to those who have discharged, under the presidency of Colonel Cologan, the important duties of Jurors of this Exhibition. (*Applause.*) Mr. Rivers Thompson, I share your hope that there may spring out of this Exhibition some permanent institution. I can assure you for myself

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that the recommendations which you have submitted to the Government of India shall receive our most careful consideration ; and I cordially agree in thinking that it would indeed be to be much regretted if the results of this Exhibition were not to be associated with a memorial ; and I venture to hope that the memorial, whatever form it may take, may be of a permanent character, and that it may be connected in some way with your own name. But, also, taking a wider view than can be found even within the limits of the vast territories under your sway, I venture to hope that this Calcutta Exhibition may be only the first of a succession of Exhibitions in India. I do not desire, however, that those Exhibitions should be pushed forward in too rapid succession ; and I think that they will be much more successful if separated from each other by a due interval of time. I hope that the example which has been set here in Calcutta will hereafter be followed in other great cities in this country ; and if that should be so, I trust that the experience which has been gained here will be put to profit by those who may have the management of future Indian Exhibitions, and not only by those who manage them in India but by European exhibitors, who send their products to this country, and that understanding better as time goes on the requirements of this country they will suit the articles which they exhibit more and more to those requirements. In one respect I must say that the European exhibits in this Exhibition have not altogether fulfilled some of the hopes which I at least entertained. The requirements of the wealthy have been thoroughly considered : articles of luxury and of splendour are to be found in these Courts in plenty ; but little has been done to show what might be accomplished to supply the wants of the mass of the people, and especially of the cultivators of the soil. Now, I have no doubt that that has arisen mainly from the ignorance of the needs of persons of that description. Nothing could

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be more natural; but, nevertheless, I can assure the capitalists and inventors of Europe and of America that there is ample room for the exercise of their skill and ingenuity in supplying the wants and the simple needs of the agricultural classes in this country, and in providing them with implements calculated to supersede the rude and primitive agricultural instruments which they now use. No doubt to do this may be beset with various difficulties, for we all know how attached the rural natives of India are to the practices and habits of their forefathers; but nevertheless I believe that those who have the skill and the capital to devise improved agricultural implements would find a fair field as time goes on for the sale of articles of that description in this country. I mention this now in the hope that, before another Exhibition is held here, those who are likely to become exhibitors hereafter will turn their attention to this subject. Now, ladies and gentlemen, I have only to repeat my great gratification at the success of this Exhibition. I trust that it will tend to make the people of other countries better acquainted with the resources of India, and to show to the natives of this country some at least of the manifold inventions of Western genius, and above all that it will be the means of opening to us new channels for trade and for commercial intercourse with distant regions of the world. If that should be the case, you, Mr. Rivers Thompson, and those who have laboured with you and under you, will have reaped the best reward of your earnest and zealous labours. At your request, Sir, I now declare this Exhibition to be closed. (*Applause.*)

[The Jurors were then presented to the Viceroy, and the proceedings were brought to a close.]

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

12th March 1884. [On Wednesday afternoon, the 12th March, the Viceroy opened the new Lecture Hall of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science in Bow Bazar Road. A large number of European and Native gentlemen were present, and Mr. Rivers Thompson, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal and President of the Association, occupied a seat next to the Viceroy on the dais. After Dr. Mohendra Lal Sircar had read the Annual Report, and Mr. Thompson had addressed the meeting, His Excellency, who was received with cheers, rose and spoke as follows :—]

Mr. Rivers Thompson and Gentlemen,—It is now two years, almost to a day, since I had the gratification of laying the first stone of this building in which we are now assembled. Its progress has been slower than was then anticipated, but we have at home an English proverb that it is ill weeds which grow apace, and as the plant of this Association is, as we hope, one of the most valuable and most useful of our educational plants which will grow in the future great trees, it is not unnatural that its development should be somewhat tardy ; but I think that now that the building is erected, and that the day has come when we are met here to open it, and that we see what a commodious structure it is, we may be well satisfied with the result of the exertions made for its erection.

/ In 1882, I stated at some length the reasons which led me to feel a deep and very sincere interest in the progress of this Association. I need not repeat those arguments to-day. My interest in this Association, so far from flagging during those two years, has increased with my increasing acquaintance with the wants of India, and I am sure no one who listened to-day to the glowing hopes which were depicted in the speech of Dr. Sircar but must feel that there lies before this institution a great and useful future. (*Applause.*)

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Our thanks are largely due to the subscribers who have come forward so readily to provide the funds for the erection of this Hall. From the list contained in the report it would appear that their names are not very numerous, but that only adds to the merit of those whose names are to be found there, and to the gratitude which we ought to feel for the contributions which they have made. Now, gentlemen, it might perhaps be thought that, having received some Rs. 30,000 wherewith to build this Hall, the friends of this institution might rest contented for a while at least with that result and might cease to torment the public of Calcutta and of Bengal for further contributions; but my experience of life shows me that that is never the case with respect to any good work which is undertaken in this world, and that when once a start is made, and the promoters have obtained sufficient support for their first object, they set forth at once with the energy of Dr. Sircar and begin to make fresh appeals for new purposes. That is exactly what I expected and what I ventured to prophesy two years ago, for I then remarked that when this Hall was erected, there was yet another work to be done, and that was to endow professorships for those who were to lecture in it.

I know very well that you have for many years engaged the gratuitous services of most competent lecturers—of Father Lafont, of Father Peneranda, of Dr. Sircar himself, and of Babu Tara Prosunno Roy. No men could be more competent to discharge those duties, and our most heartfelt thanks are due to them, but I remain now of the same opinion as I entertained in 1882, and I still think that it is an object of the highest importance that we should have endowed professorships established in connection with this institution, so that its utility and its services to the public may be based upon a secure and permanent footing (*ap-
plause*), and yet more, that by means of these endowments we may be enabled, not only to secure good professors for

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instruction in this Hall, but to afford an opportunity to scientific men to conduct those investigations which it is the ultimate purpose of this society to promote. (*Applause.*) Your admirable and devoted Secretary has said that it is your wish, when that fortunate day arrives for one of those professorships to be established and endowed, that my name should be connected with it. I can only say that I should deem it an honour if that should be the case, and I most readily agree to the proposal which has been made. (*Applause.*) At the same time I must say that it has placed me in a rather disagreeable position because I was going to say that I should be ready to contribute Rs. 1,000 towards the endowment fund (*laughter*), but how in the world can I now contribute to the endowment of the Ripon professorship? (*Laughter.*) Now, I will just tell you a little secret. I wanted to get the credit of generosity, along with the honour of having my name associated with this institution, and so I went to Dr. Sircar and said that I intended to offer a subscription of Rs. 1,000, but that he should propose that the professorship should be called by my name, so that my sense of modesty might render it impossible for me to fulfil my intention, as I might thus escape with the offer of a contribution. Anyhow you will understand that this Rs. 1,000 must now be devoted to the second professorship. (*Laughter.*) Now, gentlemen, I hope that the promoters of this institution will make it their aim that this establishment shall become the home and centre of scientific instruction and study in Bengal—I say the home both for instruction and for study, for if it is a great thing to teach people science, it is a still greater thing to train men to gain new scientific truth for the world.

Do not let us, the friends of this institution, be satisfied with doing something to enable the people of India to make themselves acquainted with the whole circle of the science of the western world. Let us labour that they

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may produce and maintain men who will devote themselves to original scientific work, and who, not content with learning all that others can teach, will strive by their own researches to impart new knowledge to the world. (*Applause.*) Dr. Sircar, in his address, spoke of the Royal Institution in England, and he said, with a tone of sorrow, that this Indian Association for the cultivation of science has not yet done any portion of the great work performed by that institution. I can quite understand that one so zealous and earnest in the promotion of science and scientific study as Dr. Sircar should feel that deep regret, but he and we must not be impatient in this matter. We may not live to see the day when this Association is doing work such as that which is done in the Royal Institution in London, but if only we set our aims high and pursue them with sufficient patience, our children, or at least our children's children, may see the day when this Association may rival some of the foremost scientific institutions of the western world. (*Applause.*) It has been said that those who originally started this institution have from time to time expressed their disappointment that greater results have not been attained by it. That disappointment does not seem to me to be reasonable. Steady progress is much better than a rapid rush which cannot be maintained, but I would say to those persons—if you are not satisfied with the progress made, come forward and help us to accomplish the greater progress which you desire, and do not stand by, and criticise and grumble because it has not been attained yet. (*Applause.*) I am not one of those who think that money can do everything in this world—far from it; but no association, however high in its aim, can get on in this world of ours without funds, and those who think we are not advancing fast enough have only got to come and oil the wheels of our chariot with a few rupees, and with Father Lafont as our coachman and Dr. Sircar to look after the passengers, I have no doubt we shall drive as rapidly as any

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of them would wish. (*Applause.*) And surely, gentlemen, this is a work which well deserves that we should place it upon a secure and permanent foundation, for what are the objects which this Association is established to promote? Survey the vast field of science; look around, and see how, in every direction, our knowledge of the material universe and of the wonderful forces by which its existence is maintained, is widening and deepening from day to day. This is an age in which God is revealing to man the inmost nature of His creation, and is bringing within the reach of the young and of the busy, secrets which in past times were hidden even from the most earnest researches of mature students. Knowledge so deep, brought home so wonderfully to all of us, it is right and good that we should strive to acquire. It is better still that, having acquired it ourselves, we should labour to impart it to others and to make them partakers of those treasures which have been freely offered for the benefit of all. There are attractions in science of which we feel the mighty power, even when our studies have been, like my own, imperfect and interrupted. I therefore yield to no man in my recognition of the grandeur of the conception which modern science is unfolding to us, but at the same time I feel, and I would beg you ever to remember, that when its widest generalizations have been reached, and its latest discoveries have been mastered, there will still remain above and beyond them all those mysteries of life which prove to us that the most perfect knowledge of the outward universe can never enable us to solve the deepest problems of our nature, and that we must look elsewhere for that help which is needed to enable us to fulfil our work on earth to the glory of Him who is the Ruler not only of the world around us but of the hearts and spirits of men. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

[His Excellency concluded his speech by declaring the Hall to be opened.]

OPENING THE MOHINDRA COLLEGE, PATIALA.

[On Friday, the 14th March, Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Ripon left Calcutta for Simla, visiting Patiala *en route*. On the afternoon of the 17th, Lord and Lady Ripon arrived by train at Rajpura from Umballa (where they had halted for a day), and here they were received by Raja Sir Deva Singh, the President of the Council of Regency, and by the members of the Council, who accompanied them in the Maharaja's carriages to Patiala. The Maharaja himself met Their Excellencies near the city and conducted them in state to a very prettily arranged camp, pitched opposite the Moti Bagh, the road being lined by the troops of the Patiala State. At 5 P.M. on the 18th the Viceroy accompanied by the Maharaja opened the Mohindra College, the foundation stone of which was laid by Lord Northbrook in 1875. Sir Deva Singh commenced the proceedings by an address in which he expressed the gratitude felt by the Patiala State at Lord Ripon's visiting Patiala and consenting to open the College. He gave a brief account of the building, which was entirely carried out by native artisans of the Patiala State, and expressed a hope that the opening of the institution by the Viceroy would strengthen the desire for education throughout Patiala. He also stated that in commemoration of His Excellency's visit it was proposed to establish, at a cost of Rs. 50,000, an orphanage for destitute children in the State, which would be called the "Ripon Rajendra Institute." In replying to this address and declaring the College to be open His Excellency spoke as follows :—] 18th March 1884

Your Highness, Members of the Council of Regency, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I can assure you that it has given me great pleasure to have been able on this occasion to accept the invitation, which I have more than once received from Your Highness, to visit Patiala; and it is particularly agreeable to me that I should thus be enabled to take a part in the ceremony of opening the new buildings of the Mohindra College. Your Highness was one of the earliest of the Native Princes of India with whom I made acquaintance after my arrival in this country, and I shall always feel a great interest in your welfare. The good administration which prevails in this State is a source of great gratification to me, and no better proof

Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

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Opening the Mohindra College, Patiala.

could be afforded of the enlightened policy which is pursued by this Government than is to be found in the establishment of such an institution as this College. Founded by that lamented Prince, the late Maharaja Mohindra Singh, Bahadur, the work, so well conceived by him, has been carried on to completion under his successor by the zeal and intelligence of the Council of Regency, and I hail it as a most promising sign of the times in which we are living, that educational institutions of this kind should be springing up in the Native States of India, under the auspices of their rulers.

I rejoice also to learn that this beautiful and commodious building, which has surprised me by its size and its conveniences, has been altogether constructed by artizans and workmen of this State. We have here a great proof of progress in the building art in this country, and it is very gratifying to me that you should have been able to provide a building of this kind, entirely out of your own resources.

The statements contained in the address which has just been read show not only that the Mohindra College, even in the building in which it has hitherto existed, has been doing good work for the people of the Patiala State, but also that it forms but a part of the general educational system of that State, and that while secondary and higher education are here provided for, the interests of primary education are not overlooked. It is with special pleasure that I have learnt that there are already 21 girls' schools in working order in this State. The problem of female education in India is a most important one, one in which I feel a very deep interest, but its satisfactory solution is, as we all know, beset with many difficulties, and it seems to me that there can be no more hopeful sign that we are approaching the day when those difficulties will be overcome than the advance in this respect which has been made in a few years in a Native State like this. I am inclined to

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think that there are aspects of this problem which may be more easily solved in such a State than in British India, and if it should be so it will be a special honour to those who, like the Patiala Government, have taken a lead in this matter.

It is my earnest hope that the subjects of Your Highness will make full use of this College as of the other institutions of which we have been speaking. There is no greater work in which any Government can engage than the spread of sound education. The intellectual faculties of man are the exclusive possession of no race and of no class. God has given them widely to all His children, and it is the duty of those who are responsible for the well-being of any part of His creatures to do their utmost to afford means to all for the development and cultivation of those faculties. You are evidently alive to this truth in Patiala, and it is to mark my sense of your labours in this cause that I have gladly consented to undertake the duty of opening these buildings to-day.

I am also much pleased to learn that it is Your Highness' intention to establish an Orphanage in connection with the College. I need not dilate upon the utility of such an institution, affording as it does the means of alleviating one of the most grievous evils which beset mankind. It therefore gratifies me greatly to understand that this institution will bear my name, in conjunction with that of Your Highness, and will thus give, as I trust, permanent testimony not only to my personal regard for Your Highness, but also to the close and intimate union which binds together the Government of the Queen-Empress and the faithful State of Patiala.

[Mr. Macnabb then read to the assembly a translation of His Excellency's address in the vernacular, after which the Viceroy formally declared the College to be open, expressing a hope that it might for many years conduce to the prosperity of the Patiala State.]

THE HON. KRISTODÁS PÁL, RAI BAHADUR.

6th Aug. 1884. [In the Legislative Council held at Simla on the 6th August, the Viceroy, before the proceedings of the Council commenced, made the following remarks, regarding the death of the Honourable Kristodás Pál, one of the Members of the Council :—]

Before we proceed to consider the business upon the List before us, I am sure that my honourable colleagues will allow me to express my deep regret at the lamented death of Rai Bahadur Kristodás Pál, which has taken place since the last meeting of the Legislative Council. By this melancholy event we have lost from amongst us a colleague of distinguished ability, from whom we had on all occasions received assistance, of which I readily acknowledge the value. He has been taken from us in the prime of life, when his powers were at their best, and when we might have hoped that he would still for many years to come have been permitted to devote himself to the service of his country with the same energy and patriotism as had hitherto marked his career. Mr. Kristodás Pál owed the honourable position to which he had attained to his own exertions. His intellectual endowments were of a high order; his rhetorical gifts were acknowledged by all who heard him, and were enhanced when addressing this Council by his thorough mastery over the English language. He will long live in the remembrance of his countrymen; and it is with feelings of sincere sorrow that I pay this last tribute to the memory of one who was so well entitled to be regarded as a worthy representative of the intellect and eloquence of the race to which he belonged.

THE PUNJAB MUNICIPALITIES BILL.

[In the Legislative Council held at Simla on the 20th of August 20th Aug. 1884. 1884, the Punjab Municipalities Bill, which had been before the Council for a year, was passed into law, after a speech by Mr. Barkley, the Member in charge of the Bill, in explanation of the principal changes which had been made in the Bill by the Select Committee, and a discussion which ensued on an amendment proposed by him, the object of which was to include furniture in the assessment of the tax upon house rent. Messrs. Quinton, Hope, and Ilbert spoke against the amendment, and Sir Charles Aitchison (Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab) in favour of it. In closing the discussion on the subject the Viceroy made the following remarks :—]

I came into this room to-day with a very great desire, I confess, to support this amendment, because I understood that it met with the approval of my honourable friend the Lieutenant-Governor, and it would always be my wish to agree with him, particularly upon a question not in itself of any great importance, in regard to a Bill relating entirely to his own province, and also because I understood it to be the wish of those who represent the community which is considered to be most immediately interested in the result of this motion. But, after listening with great care to the arguments brought forward on both sides,—and I may say that I do not intend to prolong this discussion by adding any arguments of my own,—the arguments against the amendment appear to me to be so strong that I cannot give it my support. It is with some reluctance that, for the reasons which I have stated, I have come to that conclusion ; but it does seem to me that much practical inconvenience would arise out of the amendment, and that it is possible that a great number of legal questions would be raised upon it which would lead to great litigation. It appears to me also to be an amendment inconsistent with sound principles of taxation, and it must be borne in mind that, although this subject has been discussed this morning with especial

Opening of the Simla Fine Arts Exhibition.

reference to Simla, nevertheless the amendment is one of a general character which is to be applied to every municipality in the Punjab which falls under the definition of a municipality in which houses are let furnished. I do not desire to raise any verbal arguments against the amendment, but I think a good deal of dispute might come out of that word "usually" which occurs in it; and, looking at the matter as a whole, I am compelled to say that the arguments brought forward to-day against Mr. Barkley's proposal are such as to convince me that it would not be consistent with sound legislation to accept it; and therefore, so far as I am concerned, I shall be obliged to vote, though very reluctantly, against it.

[The motion was put and negatived.]

OPENING OF THE SIMLA FINE ARTS EXHIBITION.

2nd Oct. 1884.

[The Seventeenth Annual Exhibition of the Simla Fine Arts Society was opened on the afternoon of the 2nd October 1884 by the Viceroy. The attendance was not so good as usual. His Excellency, who was accompanied by Lady Ripon, arrived at the "Rink," Benmore, where the Exhibition was held, at 4 P.M., and was received by His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and the Members of the Committee. On Lord Ripon's entering the gallery, Mr. Gibbs proceeded to make the usual annual statement on the financial condition and progress of the Society, and concluded by asking His Excellency to declare the Exhibition open. The Viceroy then addressed the assembly as follows :—]

Sir Charles Aitchison, Mr. Gibbs, Ladies and Gentlemen,—The statement which has just been made to us presents some satisfactory features. It is gratifying to learn that the financial condition of the Society has improved as compared with last year, because in a society like this, as in affairs of State, a solid financial condition is the foundation of all prosperity. It is still more gratifying to learn that

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the ladies continue to support this exhibition, and that, so far as they are concerned at all events, there is no falling off in the gracious countenance which they are good enough to give to us. On the other hand, we cannot conceal from ourselves that we are met here to-day under circumstances less encouraging than those which existed twelve months ago, because in respect to the number of pictures of all classes exhibited on the walls on this occasion, there is a decided falling off, which it would be useless to attempt to conceal. There may be many reasons for this into which I need not now enter. As respects the pictures themselves, I have even less title than Mr. Gibbs to make any remarks upon them to-day, because I have not even had the opportunity of making that cursory examination which it appears he has been able to give them. The catalogue shows us, however, that we have not represented here on this occasion some of those who have contributed several of the best works to previous exhibitions. Dr. de Fabeck is not represented on these walls, nor is Major Strahan, nor Major Holdich, nor that gentleman who has given us so much pleasure on former occasions—Mr. Van Ruith. These, however, are accidental circumstances with which all institutions of this kind are liable to meet, and I trust that, in the future, some at least of those who have not contributed works upon this occasion will return to us again and give us the pleasure to see them once more represented on our walls. At all events, with respect to one of those gentlemen to whom I have alluded, we may hope that next year, or the year after, he may give to us some works of peculiar novelty and interest, as Major Holdich, the gentleman to whom I refer, is going with the Afghan Boundary Commission, of whose progress I am glad to say that we have received up to the present moment the most satisfactory accounts. He is accompanying that expedition, and doubtless he will use his able pencil in depicting the novel scenes both of nature and of the people with

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whom he will come into contact, which will present themselves in the course of his journeyings. I trust, therefore, ladies and gentlemen, that the managers of this institution will not be in any degree discouraged by the falling off in the number of the exhibits presented to us on this particular occasion. I think that it would be very greatly to be regretted if these exhibitions were to come to an end. I believe that they are very useful. I know that they are very agreeable, and I fear that it would be not to the credit of Simla society and to those who have been in the habit of sending pictures here if this exhibition were to materially fall off in coming years; because it seems to me that the encouragement of art among amateur painters is a matter of great importance in the circumstances of Indian society. Almost all men in India are busy men: we have amongst us very few idlers; but all men, however busy, need recreation, and there can scarcely be any form of recreation more agreeable to those who practise it, and more charming to those who witness its results, than the arts of painting and drawing. They enable men immersed in business to turn from the dreary duties of each day, and from the not very pleasant aspects of society which are sometimes presented to them in the discharge of those duties, to the beauties of nature and to the picturesqueness of the various races which India can present, and I should therefore regret very much if, by any untoward circumstance, and as the result of any partial or temporary failure, the exhibitions which have charmed us for so many years should be diminished in their prosperity or should come to an untimely end. (*Applause.*) Ladies and gentlemen, this Exhibition will be deprived before next year of the services of one who has given to it a great deal of time and attention. You will lose from amongst you a gallant officer to whom the Government of the Punjab and the Government of India owe a large debt for the services which have marked his long and honourable career—I allude to Colonel Bam-

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field. (*Applause.*) Simla society owes to him and to his family a debt which I am sure you will think that I do right on your behalf to recognise upon this occasion (*applause*), and for this Fine Arts Society he has long and zealously laboured. (*Applause.*) To you, ladies and gentlemen, the loss of Colonel Bamfield and his family will be great indeed. I regard it, I confess, with philosophic calmness, because to me his departure will be a gain. I am going home and so is he ; and his presence in England will enable me to continue with profit the warm friendship which I have felt for him in India. (*Applause.*) The few past years have shown in connection with the opening of this exhibition how varied are the ways in which men may treat the same subject. In the year 1880, I was asked to open this Exhibition, and I endeavoured to discharge that duty to the best of my ability. I expressed some opinions, little worthy of attention, I admit, from one who is no artist, upon the subject of art. I availed myself of the opportunity then afforded by an industrial exhibition being combined with the exhibition of pictures, to express some strong convictions with respect to the importance of preserving and supporting indigenous industrial art in this country ; but I am sorry to say that of late years the industrial exhibition has not been kept up. In the following year I was asked to perform the same task again, and I did my best not to repeat what I had said before ; but I expressed the conviction at the end of my speech that the time had come when this duty must pass into other hands, and therefore upon the next occasion when I was asked again to perform it, I represented to the committee that they should entrust it to my excellent friend, the Lieutenant-Governor. They very wisely did so, and Sir Charles Aitchison, strong in his faith in the ancient proverb which says that "brevity is the soul of wit," made a speech, which, though one of the shortest, was certainly one more to the purpose than many to which I have listened. (*Laughter and applause.*)

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But as soon as he had made it he took a step which I think he was scarcely justified in taking: he went, as I was given to understand, and patented his speech and thus precluded his successor in the ensuing year from following his example. The Commander-in-Chief meant, he said, to do what the Lieutenant-Governor had done, but the laws of the country did not permit him, and he was obliged to strike out an original line for himself. But my friend Sir Donald Stewart, with that success which always distinguishes him, managed very well to avoid the brevity of the Lieutenant-Governor, and—shall I say it?—the tediousness of the Viceroy (*laughter*), and then I believe, from information obtained from the police (*laughter*), Sir Donald immediately went and patented that invention also (*laughter*), so that I have been debarred from following in his steps, and have only been able to lay before you the few brief practical statements which you have been good enough to receive with so much indulgence. (*Applause.*) So much for the past and the present. Shall I now dive into the future? It is a dangerous thing to do, and men often say you should never prophesy unless you know. On this occasion I can prophesy, because I do know; and this I will venture to say, that if the managers of this institution should be fortunate enough next year to induce the new Viceroy to open this Exhibition, you will then enjoy a treat, for you will have a speech marked by all that wit and eloquence of which my friend Lord Dufferin is a master, and to which he has a strong and hereditary right, and by all that refined taste which he combines with those other high qualities which fit him so well for the great office which he is about to assume. It would, therefore, be much to be regretted if you should lose the opportunity of hearing him upon art by any failure in this Exhibition, and I hold out that hope and prospect—and I can assure you that it is one which you will greatly enjoy—in the trust that it will stimulate you to hold an exhibition worthy of Lord

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Dufferin, and that it will induce you, ladies and gentlemen, to give to this Society your firm adherence and your steady support. I have now the pleasure to declare this Exhibition open. (*Applause.*)

EMPLOYMENT FOR RESERVE SOLDIERS IN CIVIL LIFE.

[On Friday afternoon, the 10th October, Colonel G. F. Chapman, 10th Oct. 1884. C. B., Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief, gave a lecture at the United Service Institution, Simla, on the employment of British soldiers of the Reserve, and of soldiers of the Native Army, after the performance of meritorious military service. His Excellency the Viceroy occupied the chair, and the audience present included His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, Major-General T. F. Wilson, Sir A. Colvin, Mr. C. P. Ilbert, Sir C. M. Macgregor, most of the officers of the Head-quarters Staff at Simla, and a number of ladies. Colonel Chapman divided his subject into three parts; namely, Home Service, Foreign Service, and the Native Army. He forcibly met the various objections generally urged against the organisation of such measures as he proposed; and showed that, if anything is to be done, it must be done as a matter of national interest. The general co-operation of the army was, he said, indispensable; and battalions should take up the question, by starting county agencies and working them to the fullest extent possible. Already much had been done; and Colonel Chapman's description of the energetic and prudent steps he had taken, with the Commander-in-Chief's consent, excited lively interest. The lecturer was careful to state that, in all his views, he had received the Commander-in-Chief's full approval and support. On the conclusion of Colonel Chapman's lecture, which occupied nearly an hour in delivery, the Commander-in-Chief made a short speech, in which he explained his connection with what had been done, and reiterated the opinion of the Lecturer that the national responsibility in the matter should be recognised. His Excellency the Viceroy then addressed the assembly as follows :—]

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I now rise for the purpose of expressing the feeling which I am confident you all share, that our best thanks are due to Colonel Chapman for the very interesting lecture which he

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has delivered to us on this occasion. (*Applause.*) None of you, I am sure, doubt the importance of the question which he has brought under our consideration, and I can assure him that I sympathise heartily with the objects which he has in view. (*Applause.*) We all know that great differences of opinion exist, especially among military men, upon the subject of short service. Some people regard it as a detestable invention, the evils of which, in their opinion, cannot be exaggerated; others hold the opposite opinion. The first class will tell you that the system is so bad that it cannot be amended, and that there is no use in your proposing to amend it; the second class, to which I belong, though not blind to the defects attaching to the short-service system, on the contrary, believe that it is the best and the only system open to adoption in England under the circumstances of the times in which we live (*applause*); and that, having regard to those vast armaments, so enormous and, to the countries in which they exist, so oppressive, which are to be found on the Continent of Europe, it was essentially necessary that England should take some means by which she could secure that upon the occurrence of an emergency, she should be able to call back to the ranks of her Army men who had had the advantage of previous military training. (*Applause.*) That is the necessity which forced the country to adopt the system of short service, and what we have to do with that system is to make the best of it, and to try, by every possible means in our power, to render it a success. (*Applause.*) Well, now, nothing can tend, I should think, more to secure that desirable result than the adoption of some such arrangements as those which have been sketched out to us this afternoon by Colonel Chapman. It is essential to the satisfactory working of the short-service system, and to the popularity of the army in which it exists, that the soldiers, when they return to civil life, should, without too great difficulty, find some means of obtaining sufficient and

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remunerative employment among the civil population. Without that, their position is one of difficulty and of suffering, and the existence of men throughout the country in that condition, while it is hard and injurious to the men themselves, must inevitably tend to diminish the attractions of the Army and to check the enlistment into it of good and steady men. What we have therefore to do is to see if any steps can be taken to secure to those Reserve men and old soldiers when they leave their standards the means of employment in civil life.

I am very glad to find that Colonel Chapman has abandoned the idea, which he very naturally originally entertained, of relying mainly upon the Government in this matter. As the Commander-in-Chief has truly said, men are apt—and men in India perhaps more than in England—to think that everything must be done for them by the Government; but that is a very great mistake, and in this matter, as Colonel Chapman has convincingly shown, there is very little really which the Government as a Government, apart from the nation, can do; and therefore the appeal is rightly made to the nation at large that the public should come forward in their respective localities to help in this important national work. The present basis of our Army system is a territorial basis; having once established the Army upon that foundation, I quite agree in the opinion that we have heard expressed that what we have to do is to make the Army more and more thoroughly territorial, and to establish more and more completely local relations between regiments and the counties with which they are connected. (*Applause.*) No doubt there are difficulties in doing so; you have to look to your large centres of population for recruiting purposes, but the closer you can make the local connection, the more completely you can bind together the Army with the Militia and the Volunteers in each county, the more solid will be the foundation on which your present system rests.

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(*Applause.*) Therefore, I rejoice to find that the object of this movement is to make an appeal which is, I understand, to emanate from the regiments themselves to the leading men in each county in all positions of life, that they should come forward and help in this important work. (*Applause.*) I believe that by adopting that course, you are adopting the course most likely to lead to ultimate success, and I am very glad to find that the officers of regiments in India, as I hope also officers of regiments in other parts of the world, are endeavouring to excite local interest in the scheme now propounded. Colonel Chapman has devoted himself with a degree of zeal and energy to this work which entitles him to the gratitude of the British soldier. (*Applause.*) He has told us of all the letters that he has written and the papers he has circulated on the subject, and I only hope that, two or three mails hence, when the answers to them are received, he will find that his efforts as regards both the European and the Native Army have been attended with the success which they undoubtedly deserve. (*Applause.*) But the work is not an easy one. When you make appeals to employers of labour to take men into their employment, although if you make a stirring appeal to their patriotism they may be inclined to listen to you while they are in the room where the appeal is addressed to them, when they come away they will say to themselves,—“It is impossible for us to conduct our business if we employ men who are not fitted for the work we give them.” And you cannot complain of that. If you want to make this system successful, you must combine with it a system of training in regiments such as will fit men to discharge the duties upon which they may be employed in civil life in a satisfactory manner. (*Applause.*) You have no right to go to employers of labour and ask them to take men who are of no use to them, because they have been soldiers, but you have every right to go to them and say,—“We have

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done our best to fit these men for your employment; now we call upon you as good citizens to take them and give them that employment for which we believe them to be fitted." (*Applause.*) Thus organised, I have every reason to hope that there is a good chance that this system may be crowned with success. I certainly shall rejoice if it is so, and I can only say that when I leave India and return to England I shall do my best to forward in that country the work which I have had the pleasure to advocate here to-day. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

[The proceedings then terminated.]

INDIAN RAILWAYS BILL.

[In the Legislative Council held at Simla on Thursday, the 23rd Octo- 23rd Oct. 1884.
ber, Mr. Hope obtained leave to introduce a Bill to amend and consolidate the law regulating the construction and working of Railways. In asking for leave to introduce the Bill, Mr. Hope explained that the existing body of Railway laws provided for a variety of questions arising out of the construction of Railways, but it not only did so in haphazard manner, but did not deal adequately with many such questions affecting the actual working of Railways as between the Railways and the public; and the general result was a considerable degree of chaos where simplicity was required. The present Bill which proposed to deal with these matters was only a rough draft prepared in the Public Works Department, and before it was introduced into the Council, it would be submitted for the opinions of the various Local Governments, Chambers of Commerce, and Railway Administrations in India.

Mr. Ilbert remarked that the Bill had not yet been considered in the Legislative Department, and that it would have to be very carefully scrutinised in that Department before it was introduced into the Council. The Bill raised a good many difficult questions, but a better opportunity for further considering it would arise after it had received the external criticism to which Mr. Hope proposed to submit it.]

His Excellency the Viceroy said:—The remarks that have fallen from my honourable friends Mr. Hope and Mr.

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Ilbert will show that in giving my assent to the introduction of this Bill I am in no way committed to any provisions which it may contain, and which, as Mr. Hope has explained, are at present only in rough draft, and therefore not in a condition to be submitted to me. I entirely agree that it is desirable to consolidate and amend the law relating to Railways in this country in various ways; and I am very glad to find that Mr. Hope proposes to consult public bodies and persons interested in Railways, either as Shareholders, Managers of Companies, or on behalf of the public, before the Bill is introduced into this Council. It will, of course, before its introduction, be submitted to my successor, Lord Dufferin, who will by that time have assumed the office of Viceroy; and, for myself, I have only to say that I agree that a Bill for consolidating and amending the law regarding Railways in India is undoubtedly needed.

ADDRESS AT UMBALLA.

12th Nov. 1884.

[On Monday morning, the 10th of November, Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Ripon left Simla on tour. Mr. H. W. Primrose, the Revd. H. S. Kerr, Lord William Beresford, and other members of the Staff accompanied them. After two days spent at Pinjore, where Their Excellencies were the guests of the Maharaja, they arrived at Umballa at 7 in the evening and were received at the Rest Camp by Major-General Wright, the Officer Commanding the Troops at Umballa, Mr. Bulman, the Deputy Commissioner, and a number of Civil and Military officers. A large deputation of Native gentlemen, representing the Rifah-i-am Association, the public of Umballa, and the Municipal Committee of the Town, here waited on the Viceroy and presented His Excellency with a farewell address. The address referred to the kindly and sympathetic spirit which had pervaded His Excellency's administration, and expressed regret at his approaching departure. His Excellency, the address went on to say, had endeavoured to secure to the people of the country equality in the eye of the law, but had ultimately to content himself with a measure of justice smaller than his broad and liberal heart had

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conceived. The address further thanked the Viceroy for the boons of Local Self-Government, the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, and for his impartial action in raising a native to the post of Chief Justice of Bengal. The Viceroy replied as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you much for the address which you have just presented to me, and for the kind expression of regret which that address contains at my approaching departure from India. I have received with much pleasure your kindly words, for it is now many years ago since I first took an interest in the affairs of the Punjab. In my early youth, so far back as the Governor-Generalship of Lord Hardinge, when my father was at the head of the Indian Administration in England, I used to see a great deal of Indian Civil Servants, and others returned from this country, and, in those stirring times, I learnt to feel an interest in the people of the Punjab. Since then, my friendship with that eminent and noble-hearted man, the late Lord Lawrence, continued that interest, until at length, even before I came to India, I seemed to know many of the cities and districts of the Punjab, and was acquainted with the names of many of its leading chiefs and nobles. Besides this general interest in your Province, gentlemen, I am glad to see you here to-night, because I naturally feel a special interest in the city and district of Umballa (*applause*) on account of the many visits which I have made here, coming to and from Simla, and therefore it gives me satisfaction to have this opportunity of meeting you and of wishing you heartily good-bye. (*Applause.*)

Gentlemen,—You have rightly interpreted in your address the spirit in which I have endeavoured to conduct the administration of this country. You tell me that you recognise that I have been actuated by a sympathy with the people of India, and by a desire to promote their highest interests, and to secure their advancement and prosperity, and that I have striven to deal with the various public questions which have come before me during my Viceroy-

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alty, upon the broad principles of full and equal justice. I am conscious, gentlemen, of the shortcomings which have existed in my administration, but I think I may, at least, fairly lay claim to have laboured honestly to do my duty to the Sovereign who sent me to this country, and to the people over whom she placed me. (*Applause.*) In a few weeks I shall hand over the government of India to my successor. It would be almost impertinent in me to praise Lord Dufferin, for his distinguished abilities and his wide experience have gained for him a European, aye, and an American reputation; but this, at least, I may be permitted to say, that it is a great satisfaction to me to think that I shall resign the administration of India into the hands of one so well qualified to conduct it, with honour to himself and with benefit to the people entrusted to his care.

Gentlemen,—Once more I thank you. I shall always feel the deepest interest in India, and in all that concerns her progress; material, political, and moral. (*Applause.*) That she may be prosperous, and that her people may be happy, contented and loyal, I earnestly pray, and so I bid you heartily farewell. (*Applause.*)

 ADDRESSES AT UMRITSUR.

13th Nov. 1884. [The special train left Umballa at 11 P.M. and arrived at Umritsur on the morning of the 13th at 7-30 A.M. Their Excellencies were received at the Railway Station by Lieutenant-General Hume, Commanding the Lahore Division, Mr. Hawkins, the Deputy Commissioner, and a number of Civil and Military officers and ladies. There was also a large number of native gentlemen from all parts of the Province assembled on the platform to receive Their Excellencies. The usual introductions being over, Lord and Lady Ripon entered the carriages in waiting for them, and drove through the city to the Golden Temple. The route was thronged with crowds of enthusiastic natives, and decorated with triumphal arches, flags and banners,

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while the houses were, in many cases, hung with handsome shawls and embroidered cloths, which gave a very picturesque and lively appearance to the scene. Here and there, at points from which a good view could be obtained and where the crowds were unusually large, brass bands were prominently placed on the house tops, or other elevated positions, and played lustily. Arrived at the Clock Tower, facing the Temple, Their Excellencies were received by Sirdar Man Singh, the Superintendent of the Temple, and conducted by him to seats placed under a shamiana, whence was obtained a good view of the Temple rising above the smooth and glassy surface of the water. Here, after a short conversation with the native gentlemen present, an address from the Diwan Khalsa, an association representing all the Sikh Subhas, which was remarkably well read, in English, by the son of Sirdar Bickerman Singh, C.S.I., was presented to His Excellency. The address thanked the Viceroy for his sympathy with the people and for the various acts of his rule, and was warm in its expressions of loyalty to the Queen-Empress.

In presenting a handsomely ornamented copy of it to the Viceroy, Sirdar Bickerman Singh added a few graceful words in acknowledgment of "the obligations bestowed by the Viceroy on the whole Sikh nation." Lord Ripon replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I must, in a few words, thank you very heartily for the address which you have been good enough to present to me. It is now, as you remind me, just about four years since I first became acquainted with your Society, and since you presented an address to me soon after my arrival in this country. I am very glad indeed to learn from the statements contained in your address, that this Society has progressed during those four years, and that it has continued successfully to pursue its course of public usefulness; and if the words which I spoke to you at that time have had anything to do with promoting that success, I sincerely rejoice. I thank you much for the kind expressions which your address contains. At least, I can say one thing—that I have earnestly desired, since I came to India and took over the great office of Governor-General, so to conduct myself, that I might deserve the continued confidence of my Sovereign, and obtain the regard of the people over whom she sent me to rule; and

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it is gratifying indeed, at the close of my Indian career, to find that you, at all events in the Punjab, and in this ancient and historic city, are willing to accord to me proofs of your confidence and regard. Gentlemen, I will not follow you through the various topics which you have touched upon in this address; time would not permit me to do so, but I rejoice to learn from it that you rightly appreciate the objects which the Government of India, since I have presided over it, have had in the various measures which they have pursued with regard to the internal administration of the country. You, I know, take great interest in the subject of education. Shortly after my arrival in India, my attention was drawn to the necessity of establishing a University in the Punjab; and although I well remember that when I spoke somewhat cautiously on that subject four years ago, there were eager gentlemen amongst you who thought, I fear, that I hardly promised enough for the promotion of that object, I hope you have now discovered that I have been better than my word, and the Punjab University, for which I anticipate a famous and honourable career, has at length been established. Under its guidance, education has flourished in this Province, and even before the Report of the Education Commission, which concerned itself chiefly with Primary Education, was presented to the Government and made public, my distinguished friend Sir Charles Aitchison, your admirable Lieutenant-Governor, had already taken steps for the promotion of that most important branch of education, upon the very lines and principles which the Commission ultimately recommended and approved. One of the last acts of my administration has been, as you are aware, to embody the recommendations of that Commission in a Government Resolution, which I trust will tend, as time goes on, to spread the blessings of elementary education throughout the length and breadth of the land.

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Gentlemen,—You have asked me to lay at the feet of our Gracious Sovereign, the expression of your loyalty and attachment. Her Majesty the Queen-Empress knows and appreciates the love of her subjects in the Punjab, and it will be to me a great pleasure when I reach England to inform Her Majesty how deep and earnest those sentiments are. I will not detain you longer. I will only say that I am deeply grateful for this proof of your kindly feelings, and that I heartily wish your Society every success.

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[The Viceroy then drove to the Town Hall, Lady Ripon proceeding to visit the Alexandra College. In the spacious and handsome Hall of the former building, which was elegantly decorated, was assembled a large number of native gentlemen from all parts of the Punjab, together with the district and local European and native officials. Here His Excellency received addresses from deputations representing various public bodies and localities, to be presently named. On the Viceroy taking his seat on the Dais at the head of the Hall, a deputation from the Municipal Commissioners of Umritsur came forward and presented His Excellency with an address, in which they stated that they viewed this second visit of Lord Ripon to the city as a great honour, and desired to offer their humble gratitude for the many enlightened and liberal measures introduced during His Excellency's rule. Among such measures they noticed the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, the Local Self-Government scheme, His Excellency's educational policy, the admission of natives to the highest Government appointments, and the extension of railways. They assured Lord Ripon that his name would ever be remembered by the people of India as one who had their best interests at heart, and who endeavoured with success to secure the loyalty of all classes to the Throne, and they hoped that His Excellency would continue to be animated with a desire for the welfare of India. The Viceroy replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen of the Municipality of the City of Umritsur,—I thank you sincerely for the address which you

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have just presented to me. I am very glad indeed to find myself once more in this city, so famous with many memories in the history of the Sikh people. I well remember the cordial welcome which you gave to me four years ago when I first came here, and I have to thank you to-day for a welcome if possible yet more cordial, which combines with it the intentions of a farewell. I am also grateful to you for the appreciation which you have displayed in your address of the measures of the Government of India during the time that I have had the honour to preside over it, and I can assure you that it is to me a real and a deep pleasure to find that you understand the principles by which the policy of the Government has been guided during the past four and a half years, and that they commend themselves to your approval. You have spoken, gentlemen, of the development and extension which has been given during the last four years to Local Self-Government in India. That scheme has not made much alteration in the state of things in this city, because you here, in Umritsur, have enjoyed for many years the privilege of electing a large portion of your Municipal Commissioners; but, in other parts of this Province, the plans of the Government for the development of local administration have received a large and important extension. When I first came to this city, though election existed here, it existed only in two other Municipalities in the Punjab. Now it has been already extended to 122 Municipalities (*cheers*) and a wide system of Local Self-Government in the rural parts of the country for the election of Local and District Boards has been already established in no less than 14 districts in this Province. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, I hope that you fully recognise that for this large development of the principles of Local Self-Government you owe a deep debt to my distinguished friend, the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab. (*Loud cheers.*) Without his cordial assistance the progress that

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has been made in the short period of two years could not have been accomplished. He has thoroughly understood the principles by which the Government of India were guided in their Resolution of May 1882, and he has applied them wisely and carefully and fully. (*Continued cheers.*) You have said, gentlemen, that it has been the earnest endeavour of my Government to recognise the claims of the educated, deserving, and faithful members of the native community, and to give to them that justice which they have always sought. (*Cheers.*) Yes, gentlemen, it has been the aim of the Government under my guidance thus to recognise the claims of education and of good and faithful service, and in doing so we have but carried out the distinct commands of our gracious and beloved Sovereign. You, I see, also appreciate the benefits which the country will receive from the extension of Railways. That is a question which occupied my attention from an early period after I came to India, especially in connection with the prevention of famine; because there can be no doubt that you can take no more speedy method of guarding against the worst evils of that terrible affliction than by the extension and opening up of new means of communication between one part of the country and another. The Government of India, therefore, made large proposals for a more rapid development of Railway communication, and I am glad to say that these proposals have received the sanction and the confirmation of a Committee of the House of Commons at home. (*Cheers*) We shall now proceed without undue haste, but without delay, to carry out, and to apply those principles in the development of Railways in different parts of the land. Gentlemen, the House of Commons Committee made one condition in which I most cordially concur. They said that this greater development of Railway communication was not to add to the taxation of the country. (*Cheers.*) We shall abide strictly by that determination, and while we develop to the utmost Rail-

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way communications throughout the land, we shall not make them a cause for imposing fresh burdens upon the people. (*Continued cheers.*) I remember very well when I was here four years ago that you spoke to me then, as you have spoken to me to-day, about the Umritsur and Pathankot Railway. Well, I said then that I would consider the subject, and I hope you will allow that I have considered it to some purpose, and that I have been careful to comply with the wish which you then expressed to me. I did so because I desired to the utmost in my power to promote the prosperity of this important city. (*Cheers.*)

Gentlemen,—You go on in your address to say that the measures of which you have previously expressed your approval will ever be remembered by the people of this country in connection with my name. (*Cheers.*) The aim of those measures has been, I can honestly say, to do justice to the people of India (*cheers*), to advance their moral, their political, and their material prosperity (*continued cheers*), and thereby, gentlemen,—for those are the surest methods of attaining that object—to secure, as you remark in your addresses, the loyalty of all classes to the Throne of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress. (*Continued cheers.*) I need not detain you longer. I have only once more to thank you sincerely for the kindness of your reception, and to assure you of the deep interest which I shall always feel in the welfare of this important manufacturing and industrial city—an interest which can never flag so long as the memory of your kindness to-day remains in my grateful recollection. (*Loud and prolonged cheers.*)

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ADDRESSES FROM VARIOUS PUBLIC BODIES.

[Deputations from eight other associations and public bodies then 13th Nov. 1884. came forward in turn and read addresses either in the Vernacular or in English. The associations and public bodies thus represented were—The Anjuman-i-Islamia; the Hindu Sabha; the Anjuman-i-Punjab, Lahore; the residents of Lahore; the Punjab Press Association; the Residents of Rawul Pindi; the Residents of Multan; and the Majlis Akhlaquia. These addresses spoke in various strains of eulogy of Lord Ripon's administration. The key-note of the Lahore address was that His Excellency's philanthropy had been of a practical kind, and that his rule would be distinguished from that of many of his predecessors whose benevolent sentiments towards India had shown themselves more in words than in deeds. The Rawul Pindi address assured the Viceroy that the expectation raised by the first words uttered by him on his arrival in this country had been more than fulfilled. The Press Association eulogised the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, and assured His Excellency of the constant loyalty of the Native Press. The Majlis Akhlaquia felt sure that His Excellency would have done even more than he had, but for the fact that he was hampered by those who regard the prosperity of India as a source of danger to the Empire, whereas it is the best safeguard. The Anjuman-i-Punjab thought His Lordship had given a great stimulus to the recognition of just and right principles in the government of India. The Anjuman-i-Islamia declared that the great personal sacrifices incurred by the Viceroy to ameliorate the condition of the people of India had shed a flood of lustre on His Excellency's memorable reign. The residents of Multan assured His Lordship that no Governor-General in their lifetime had so won the confidence and esteem of all classes.

To the above eight addresses His Excellency replied as follows; his remarks being translated, sentence by sentence, by a native gentleman standing at his right hand :—]

Gentlemen,—I am greatly obliged to you for the addresses which you have just presented to me. It is, I can assure you, very gratifying to me to receive so many proofs of your friendly feelings. You, gentlemen, in the course of those addresses, have touched upon a great variety of subjects. You will not expect that I should follow you upon all of them, but I will proceed to touch

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upon some of those to which you have alluded. Upon one of them—the subject of Local Self-Government—I have spoken already. I am glad to find that the question of education occupies a prominent position in most of these addresses. It was not long after I assumed the government of this country, that I, with the consent of my colleagues, appointed an Education Commission which instituted a very complete and careful investigation into the condition of education throughout India and especially in regard to primary education. The report of that Commission completely fulfilled the expectations with which I had brought together the gentlemen who composed it, and has enabled me to fulfil the intentions with which I appointed the Commission. Those who compare the Resolution of the Government appointing the Commission, with the Resolution which we have just issued at the completion of its labours, will find that the principles which were embodied in the first of those Resolutions have been carried into effect in the second. Those principles were in the first place that a real effort should be made for the extension of elementary education, as far as possible, among the mass of the people, without in any way checking, injuring or diminishing the efficiency of higher education in this country (*cheers*): for while the Government recognised the great importance of primary education, it was their fixed determination, from the commencement of this enquiry, that nothing should be done to diminish the efficiency or to check the extension of higher education. (*Cheers.*) Then, another object which we had in view, was to make the utmost use of the indigenous schools in India. We felt that we had need of every educational instrument which the country could give to us, and that it was right and reasonable that we should especially use those schools which were the natural growth of the country itself. To make use of, and to improve those schools, and gradually to elevate the standard of their

Addresses from various public bodies.

education, has been with us throughout a primary object. You know, gentlemen, how heartily your Lieutenant-Governor, my friend Sir Charles Aitchison (*cheers*), sympathises with that object, and how already, even before the issue of the Government Resolution the other day, he had taken steps in this direction. The third object, gentlemen, which we set before us was to call into play, to the utmost extent, the aid of private persons in the management and control of education, and to encourage the application of private funds to that important object. I spoke upon this last subject at the inauguration of the Punjab University, and the principles which I then laid before the Convocation of that University have been applied and carried out in the Resolution which the Government has recently issued. Gentlemen, as I have spoken of the Punjab University, I avail myself of this opportunity of saying how much I regret that I was not able to visit Lahore at the approaching University Convocation. But before I knew of the date of the Convocation, the arrangements for my tour had been made, and it was impossible for me to alter them without inconvenience, not to myself so much, as to many other persons. But I shall always feel the very deepest interest in the prosperity of the Punjab University, and the greatest satisfaction at the part which I have had in establishing that institution. (*Cheers.*) The recent Resolution of the Government upon education has covered almost the whole ground of the questions connected with that subject, except in regard to matters of detail which must necessarily be left to Local Governments. But there is one subject connected with education to which allusion has been made to-day in the address of the Anjuman-i-Islamia which I admit I have been unable to deal with. I allude to the special question of Mahomedan education. The Resolution we have issued recognises that that is a special question ; but I have been unable to deal with it myself before I leave India, because

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I felt that it was impossible to deal with it satisfactorily except in consultation with representative men of the Mahomedan community. There was no time for that communication, and I must therefore commend the subject to the consideration of my successor. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act has been specially alluded to in many of these addresses. I did not, as you are aware, act hastily in that matter; I proceeded with much deliberation; some persons at one time thought that I proceeded much too slowly; but having considered the subject carefully, I fully made up my mind that the Act ought to be repealed, and I rejoice that I repealed it. (*Loud cheers.*) The Press of all sorts and all branches in all countries occasionally writes foolishly and unjustly. It occasionally writes upon imperfect information, and sometimes, I fear, with unworthy motives. Whenever such writings have come under my notice they have undoubtedly given me pain and regret, for I know that they are always injurious to a noble cause, but it has never, I confess, occurred to me to re-enact the restrictions which have been removed, because I believe that the freedom of the Press is as useful to the Government as it is beneficial to the people. (*Cheers.*) Great was the experiment which Sir Charles Metcalfe made, but it was in my opinion an experiment worthy of England, and she ought to uphold it. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, you have spoken in some of these addresses of the encouragement which the Government has striven to give to private enterprise in this country. We have endeavoured by all means in our power to give that encouragement to local and national manufactures and arts so far as was consistent with sound economical principles. I believe it to be a matter of great importance to the people of this country that arts and manufactures should be established far and wide, so that the people may not in the future depend so entirely on the land as they do at the present time. (*Loud cheers.*) The want of variety

Addresses from various public bodies.

of employment is one of the greatest economical difficulties of India. More than one of the addresses has alluded to the subject of the reduction of the salt tax. I have the satisfaction of feeling that that measure which was taken by my valued colleague, Sir Evelyn Baring, has been largely successful. The salt revenue is gradually rising at the lower duty to the same height at which it stood when the duty was higher; that means that the people are more largely consuming a cheaper salt, and it is my hope that when the revenue again stands, as I believe it will in a few years, at the same height that it stood before, the Government will have it in their power to reduce the duty still further. One of your addresses alluded to some subjects which you asked me to mention to my successor. I will not fail, so far as I am able, to make known your wants to Lord Dufferin (*cheers*), but what I recommend you to do is not to rely upon anything that I may say, but to go to Lord Dufferin himself and to explain your wishes and your desires to him. (*Loud cheers.*) I know well that he will give to them the most careful and earnest consideration (*cheers*), and that you will ever find in him a true friend and a wise ruler. (*Continued cheers.*)

Gentlemen,—It is with great pleasure that I have received the assurances of your loyalty to our Gracious Sovereign the Queen-Empress which you have given to me to-day. I scarcely needed those assurances, for I was already well acquainted with the loyalty of the Punjab (*loud cheers*); but it is a great gratification to me, to be charged by you, to lay at the foot of our common Sovereign, those expressions of your attachment and love. I know well Her Majesty's deep interest in the happiness and welfare of Her Indian subjects. (*Cheers.*) She has given you a proof of it lately, by sending one of her sons to exercise public functions in this land (*loud cheers*), and thus to bind together, still more closely, the peoples of India and the Crown of England. (*Continued cheers.*)

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Gentlemen,—Before I conclude, I cannot help saying with what satisfaction I leave this great Province in the hands of Sir Charles Aitchison. (*Loud cheers.*) You know his great abilities, his thorough earnestness, his honesty of purpose, and his attachment to the people of his Province. In his hands the administration of the Punjab is safe. (*Continued cheers.*)

And now, gentlemen, it only remains for me once more to thank you very heartily for the kindness which you have shown me to-day. I shall carry away with me to my own land your kind words and your cordial farewell, and if in England I can do any work for the good of India, it will be to me in the truest sense, a labour of love. (*Loud and continued cheers.*)

[The proceedings then closed, and the Viceroy returned to the Railway Station.]

ADDRESSES AT DELHI.

15th Nov. 1884.

[On Saturday, the 15th November, the Viceroy received at Ludlow Castle, the residence of the Commissioner of Delhi, three deputations who waited on him to present farewell addresses. The deputations were from the Delhi Literary Society, the inhabitants of Meerut, and the Anjuman-i-Islamia of Delhi. A few extracts from the addresses will be sufficient to give an idea of their contents. After expressing regret at the approaching departure of His Excellency, the Meerut address went on to remark: "Never has a Viceroy and Governor-General so loved us; never have the people of India so loved a Viceroy and Governor-General. . . . There was discontent in the land before Your Lordship set foot on its shores, but, happily, it has now vanished under your just and magnanimous rule." The address then referred to the various reforms carried out by His Excellency, and the movement at Meerut to memorialise the Queen for an extension of the Viceroy's term of office, and concluded by expressing heartfelt regret at "the departure of India's just and faithful friend." The address of the Delhi Literary Society, after an expression of gratitude for the Viceroy's labours,

Inhabitants of Meerut. Literary Society. Anjuman-i-Islamia.

proceeded : "For a thousand years past, our Indian history records no ruler who has so unselfishly, so consistently, and so earnestly endeavoured to govern the country so entirely in its own interests, or who has so strenuously striven to obtain justice for the children of the soil. . . . When we reflect on all the opposition you have had to encounter, when we think of all you have attempted, all you have done, all you have undergone, all you have sacrificed, and all for *us*, we feel that words are utterly inadequate to express the thanks we owe you, and that you must read these in the great heart of India now overflowing with love to *you* and loyalty to our good Empress. . . . From first to last, sympathy with the people of India has been the key-note of your administration, and now, believe us, when we sorrowfully part with you, sympathy and affection for you will be the universal feeling of that people."

The address from the Anjuman-i-Islamia of Delhi was delivered in the vernacular, and referred, *inter alia*, to the benefits which had resulted to the people from the establishment of Post Office Savings Banks.

His Excellency the Viceroy replied to the three addresses as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I am grateful to you for the addresses which you have just presented to me. It is very pleasant to me to find, from the terms in which those addresses, and others which I have lately received, are couched, that in this great Northern Province of India, the people, watching the course of my administration, have concluded that I have desired to deal with the various questions which have come before me since I have held the great office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India, in a just and liberal spirit. In doing so I lay no claim to have struck out a new line of policy, or to have acted upon novel principles, for I have only been following in the footsteps of the most distinguished of my predecessors. But, gentlemen, I have naturally shaped my policy according to the circumstances of the present time—a time which is fraught with all those difficulties which inevitably belong to a period of change. Fifty years of a free press, and thirty years of expanding education, railways, telegraphs, and increasing facilities for communication with Europe, have naturally

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produced, and are still producing, great changes even in this conservative country; and it behoves, therefore, those who have to rule in it to shape their measures in accordance with the times and the changes as they occur. Take, for instance, the question of education. During the thirty years which have elapsed since the date of that great Despatch of 1854 which forms one of the highest claims of my dear friend and honoured master, Lord Halifax, to the gratitude of the people of India, the English Government have been labouring zealously to promote in this country the progress of higher and middle education, and I hold it to be one of the greatest claims which that Government has upon the gratitude of the people of India, that they have thus promoted education of the highest kind. But, gentlemen, the fact that so much has been done in that direction during a whole generation imposes upon us special duties at the present time. In the first place, having laboured earnestly by the establishment of Universities and Colleges for the promotion of the education of the higher and middle classes, the time is surely fully come when we are bound to make efforts to carry down instruction to the masses of the people, and to deal adequately with the important subject of primary education; and that has been the great object of the recent investigations of Government, and of the policy which has been sketched out in the Resolution which has just been issued. But, gentlemen, there is another duty imposed on us by the course of our educational policy, and that is that we should do what we can to provide for the legitimate aspirations of those whom we have been educating for the last thirty years, and to meet the just claims, consistently with the claims of other classes, of the men whom we are turning out year by year, in ever increasing numbers, from our Universities and Colleges; and, gentlemen, in that consideration you will find the key to many of the measures which have been pursued by the

Inhabitants of Meerut. Literary Society. Anjuman-i-Islamia.

Government during the last four and a half years,—the scheme for the development of Local Self-Government, the increased facilities afforded to the people to make themselves acquainted with the Legislative measures which are under the consideration of the Government, the efforts to spread primary education, and the other measures to which allusion has been made to-day. And, gentlemen, speaking here on almost the last occasion in the Province of the Punjab on which I shall say any farewell words, I must allude to a matter which has occurred to-day and which has given me great satisfaction. Just before I came into this room, I received a telegram from my friend Sir Charles Aitchison, informing me that this day it is intended at the Convocation of the Punjab University, to confer upon me the title of Doctor of Oriental Learning. Gentlemen, that is, no doubt in my case, a very honorary title, for I am afraid I can lay no claim to be an Oriental scholar; but this at least I can lay claim to, that I appreciate the value of Oriental literature, though I have not been able to study it myself, and that I have the best reason to believe that, in that literature, men of Western nations may find much which they may study with the utmost advantage. I respect and honour that literature, and so far as to do so gives me any claim to the title which I have received, I may fairly bring it forward on my behalf. But, gentlemen, I consider it as a proof of the kindly feeling and regard with which so many people in this Province are good enough to look upon me, and as an acknowledgment of the part which I have had in founding the University of the Punjab, which I shall always consider one of the most important of the measures of my Indian administration.

Gentlemen of the Anjuman-i-Islamia,—You allude in your address to the question of the extension of Savings Banks in India. I was very glad to observe that that matter, small as it may appear to be, had attracted your attention, because measures of that description

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are calculated to confer many benefits upon the people; and in the extensive use which has been made of those Post Office Savings Banks, as soon as they had been established, may be found the best proof of the wisdom of the Government. in offering such facilities to the country.

Gentlemen of the City of Meerut,—You must permit me to thank you very heartily for having come here from that city to present your address to me. I can assure you that I appreciate very highly this proof of your kindness. It has not been my good fortune to visit Meerut during the time that I have been in India, but I shall carry away with me a grateful recollection of the kindness which its citizens have shown me to-day.

Gentlemen of the Delhi Literary Society,—You have been good enough to say in your address, that you are sure that I shall never forget India. In that you are quite right. I shall always watch the progress of this country with the deepest interest, and with the most earnest hope that its continuous and steady development may tend to bind ever closer the Government and the people, and to unite men of all classes in this wide land in the bonds of faithful loyalty to our Queen and Empress. Gentlemen, I heartily thank you, and wish you a cordial farewell. (*Applause.*)

[The deputations then withdrew.]

ADDRESS FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF DELHI.

[On the evening of the 17th November the Municipal Commissioners of Delhi entertained the Viceroy and Lady Ripon at a *conversazione* in the Durbar Hall of the Institute. A number of Civil and Military officials and ladies, and all the leading Native gentlemen of Delhi, were present, and the hall was brilliantly lighted; Chandnee Chowk, the principal street of Delhi, and the clock tower opposite the Institute, were very prettily illuminated, and there was a handsome arch bearing suitable inscriptions near the entrance. 17th Nov. 1884.]

On Their Excellencies' arrival the Municipality presented a farewell address to the Viceroy. The address thanked him for his second visit to Delhi on the eve of his departure, as showing evidence of his interest in the welfare of it and its inhabitants, and expressed gratitude for the beneficent measures of Lord Ripon's Viceroyalty, particularly for the scheme of Local Self-Government, the appointment of the Education Commission, and for his sympathy with the people. It concluded with expressions of loyalty to the Queen, and of regret at the Viceroy's departure, and hoped that the Viceroy would continue to take an interest in the welfare of India. His Excellency replied in the following terms:—]

Gentlemen of the Municipal Committee of Delhi,—I thank you sincerely for the address which you have just given me, and for the welcome which has been accorded to me in this your city. I should have been most unwilling to have left India without having once more paid a visit to this famous town, replete with so many historical memories, and adorned with so many beautiful buildings. But, gentlemen, I have another reason, apart from those attractions of history and of art, which makes me rejoice that I have been able to come once more to Delhi. It is just three years ago since, in this Hall, I for the first time in India expressed my views upon the important subject of Local Self-Government to which you have alluded in your address. Perhaps you will permit me to read to you now the words which I then employed, in order that I may show how far the Government of India have, since that time, fulfilled the anticipations which I then held out to you.

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Speaking in November 1881, I used the following language:—

“I am very well aware that such a work as that of developing Local Self-Government in a country like this must necessarily be a gradual work; that it must be carried out in one way in one part of this great Peninsula, and in another way in another; that one part of the country may be more fit for the wide application of Self-Government than another; but the object of that Resolution” (that was the Resolution of September 1881) “was to call public and official attention to the great importance of the principle itself, and to mark emphatically the desire of the Government that every effort should be made to afford it all that development and extension which the special circumstances of each locality might render possible. I look,” I said, “upon the extension of Self-Government as the best means at the disposal of the Government of India, at the present time, of promoting and extending the political education of the people of this country.”

Now, gentlemen, I think I may fairly claim that the policy sketched out in these words has, since that time, been applied to most parts of the country, and applied in a more extended form than those words implied. The expectations which were naturally raised by the remarks which I then made have since then been realised, or are in course of realisation, and the principles which I enunciated upon that occasion have been embodied in various Acts which have passed the Legislative Council, and in Resolutions which have been issued by the Government of India. It is therefore, gentlemen, a great satisfaction to me to understand that that policy of Local Self-Government will shortly receive, here in the city of Delhi, a wider and a fuller application than has been given to it up to the present time. You will have observed that, in the extract to which I have just referred, I spoke of Local Self-Government as an instrument of political education. That phrase—“political educa-

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tion"—has, since that time, been a good deal criticised ; but for my own part I adhere to it. I cannot claim that it was an original phrase of my own, for I find it used by persons no less acquainted with India than Sir John Strachey, and his brother General Strachey, in the interesting work which they published some time ago upon Indian Finance and Public Works, and in which they spoke of the municipal institutions of India as the first practical step in political education. Indeed, to me it seems so extremely natural and obvious that the extension of Local Self-Government must be an important instrument of political education, that I should have thought the statement was one which could not be contested ; but, however, whether it be contested or not, it has undoubtedly been one of the chief objects of the Local Self-Government policy of the Government of India, since I have had the honour to be at its head, to train the people of this country to take more and more, as time goes on, an intelligent share in the administration of their own affairs ; and for my own part, among the political objects which are attainable at the present time in India, I do not know of any that are higher or more important. Gentlemen, since 1881, all the various Legislative measures which have been requisite for giving effect to the policy have been passed by the various Legislatures of India, with the single exception of the Local Boards Bill in Bengal, which has been delayed by circumstances, for which neither the Lieutenant Governor of that Province nor the Government of India are responsible. Local Governments, therefore, have now the necessary powers to enable them to give effect to that policy ; and in regard to Municipal towns, a great advance has already been made. It is natural that things should proceed less rapidly in rural than in urban districts, and so it has been in this case ; but, nevertheless, here in the Punjab, a great step has already been taken. In fourteen districts, as I had occasion to say the other day, the system of Local Boards has been

Addresses at Delhi.

fully introduced; and although other provinces may not be so far advanced, I hope that they will soon make equal progress to that which has been made in the Punjab. That being so, gentlemen, I would ask you to remember that the success of this policy rests now mainly in the hands of the people themselves; it is for them to show that the Government has been right in giving them extended powers. If, by their attention to business, by their public spirit, and by their intelligence, they justify, as I believe they will justify, the confidence which has been placed in them, then I have no doubt that that confidence will be continued and extended. No doubt, the proceedings of Municipal bodies and Local Boards will be watched by jealous critics, who will be eager to point out mistakes, perhaps in no friendly spirit. For my own part, however, I do not regret this—I do not regret that the proceedings of Municipal Committees and Local Boards should be submitted to keen criticism, because that criticism will make the members of those Boards more circumspect and more vigilant. I shall follow the progress of these institutions when I am in England with a lively interest; and I have every confidence that the hopes which I have formed on this subject will not be disappointed. Mistakes, doubtless, will be made here and there, but even mistakes have a value of their own,—they have an educational value, and may be a benefit to those who make them and to those who witness them, if they are turned to profit for the future. It is only by occasional falls at the beginning of life, that any of us learn how to walk, and that the natives of this country should be trained to manage their own affairs by the practical experience which is obtained by success on the one hand, and by failure on the other, is one of the main objects of the policy which we have recently been pursuing in this matter. The schemes of Local Self-Government adopted in the different provinces will be naturally varied; the manner in which they will be applied by different Local Govern-

Address from the Municipality.

ments will also vary. This is what we always contemplated. We always desired that a variety of arrangements should be tried in different parts of the country in order that experience might show those which were most suited to the requirements of the inhabitants, and to the local circumstances of each district. Some Local Governments have displayed greater caution in regard to these matters than others; others have proceeded more boldly, but I have no doubt that those who have been most cautious will be encouraged to make further advances, if it should be found that, in the provinces where the policy of the Government has been most fully applied, success attends its introduction; and, gentlemen, so far as we can judge, while I admit that the time is short, and experience limited, a large amount of success has hitherto attended the efforts which have been made. I have here extracted from an official document the views entertained by your Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Charles Aitchison, on the results attained up to the present time in the province of the Punjab. Sir Charles Aitchison says that, on the whole, the Municipal elections have succeeded admirably, and he goes on to state that the first attempt to carry out rural elections in the Punjab has succeeded beyond his expectations. How far the working of the new local bodies will be a success, experience alone can show, but for his part Sir Charles Aitchison believes that success will be the rule, and that the elected members will be found to justify the popular choice. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, so closely bordering upon this part of the country, elections, as you all know, have recently been held in the Municipalities, and I have the authority of the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Alfred Lyall, for stating that those elections have been remarkably satisfactory. In Bengal, the Municipal elections are to take place in a few days, and I trust that a similar result will be there obtained. In the Central Provinces, which

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is considered by some persons to be a rather backward part of the country, the acting Chief Commissioner, Mr. Crosthwaite, assures me that the Municipalities are working extremely well; while in British Burmah, the last report of the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Bernard, states that the administration of local affairs by Municipalities for the past year is one of steady progress on well-laid lines. Surely that is not an unsatisfactory account of what has been done up to the present time. In Madras and Bombay, the Bills upon this subject were passed somewhat late, and have not yet come into full operation, but I have every confidence that in those Presidencies the system which is working well elsewhere will be found to be equally successful. I may therefore, I think, fairly claim that the hopes held out, and the promises made in this Hall three years ago, have been fulfilled and redeemed; that good and solid work has been done during those three years; that a real and substantial advance has been made; and that the sound policy of previous Governments has been extended and developed. It now rests, as I have said, mainly with the people themselves to secure the stability and the permanence of the measures which have been taken during the time that I have been at the head of affairs in India, by the wise and intelligent use which they make of the new powers with which they have been thus entrusted. Gentlemen, I could not resist availing myself of this opportunity of taking stock, as merchants say, of the progress which has been made in the matter since I first spoke upon the subject here in Delhi. I am well content to leave the further application of the policy which was sketched out in 1881, and which has since been adopted and enforced, in the hands of the distinguished and able statesman to whom, in a few weeks, I shall hand over the Government of this country. Gentlemen, it only remains for me to bid you good-bye, and I do so with feelings of sincere regret. I have been much touched by the

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many proofs of kindness which I have received during the last few days, and by those which you have shown me here. I shall always watch in my own country with keen interest your future progress in Delhi, in the path of the freer and more developed local life on which you are about to enter. May God bless and guide you in it! (*Applause.*)

ADDRESSES AT ALIGARH. THE MUNICIPALITY.

[On Tuesday, the 18th November 1884, Their Excellencies the 18th Nov. 1884.
Viceroy and Lady Ripon arrived at Aligarh, where they received a singularly enthusiastic welcome from the local Native community. The special train arrived at the Railway Station at 12-40 P.M., the station and the approaches to it being extensively decorated. On His Excellency stepping from his carriage he was received by the members of the Municipal Committee of Aligarh, who presented him with an address in the waiting-room of the Railway Station. The address was in the vernacular, a translation being read by Mr. Bullock, the Collector. The matters referred to in the address will be apparent from the Viceroy's reply, which was as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I am much obliged to you for the address which you have just presented to me. You have touched upon various topics upon which I have been speaking a good deal of late, and you will therefore, I hope, excuse me, if, in replying to your address, I allude chiefly to those matters which have found a place here, but which have not been brought into prominence in other addresses which I have received. There is one of the points to which you allude, which I am glad has attracted your attention. You say that "the representation of the wants of the country has been ensured by the appointment of enlightened men on the Legislative Council." Gentlemen, it has been my object since I have been at the head of the Government of this country, to make a careful selection of native gentlemen to represent your interests in the Supreme Legislative Council of the Government,

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and, with that view, I have kept that Council filled up to its complete numbers to a greater extent than had been done of late years before I came here. I naturally took this step because I had the honour—and I shall always consider it a high honour—under the direction of my friend Lord Halifax, then Sir Charles Wood, and Secretary of State for India, to pass through the House of Lords the first Act of Parliament which enabled natives of India to take their seats in the Legislative Council of the Governor General; and having felt great interest in passing that Act, and having had a hand in making the law, I have naturally followed up the policy which it embodied, and maintained the Council at its full numbers, and done my best to represent the various interests of the country in it by the selections I have made. Again, gentlemen, you have alluded to the various appointments made by the Government of India, of late years, of native gentlemen to high posts in the public service. I have been very glad, indeed, to have had an opportunity of carrying out the policy of the Crown and of the British people in this country, and to have had a hand in selecting gentlemen eminently qualified, as I believe, for the posts to which they have been promoted, and I trust that fit men may be found hereafter in greater numbers to fill similar appointments.

Gentlemen,—In speaking of the subject of Local Self-Government, I am very glad to observe this sentence in your address. You say that “the greatest benefit which can, perhaps, accrue from this measure will be if it stirs up the people to fit themselves thoroughly and efficiently for the new duties they are called on to perform. Success or failure,” you add, “lies in our own hands, and it is not only our wish, but our duty, to do the utmost we can, as a Municipal Committee, to give a practical proof of the benefit of this generous and advanced Legislative Act.” Gentlemen, I quite agree with the view which you there take of the real objects of this measure. One of its

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principal purposes was to stir up the people of this country to fit themselves thoroughly and efficiently for the new duties which they were called upon to perform. The success of the policy which dictated that measure, and its stability in the future, depend, as you justly say, upon the manner in which you yourselves, the members of the new Municipal and local bodies, discharge the public functions with which you have been entrusted by your fellow-citizens and by the Government.

Gentlemen,—You say that you regret my early departure from India, and wish I had been able to remain here to see the youthful plant of Self-Government in the fulness of its growth. Well, if I had waited till that youthful plant had attained to the fullness of growth which I desire for it, my hair, which is already turning grey, would have been very white indeed, and I should certainly have ended my days in India; because I look for a long-continued course of progress in connection with the policy of Local Self-Government, and I hope to see it by your labours and by your intelligence further and further developed as time goes on. It is a small plant, doubtless, now; I trust it will grow into a great and beautiful tree, and you know that all fine trees are of slow growth, and that we cannot expect them to attain to their full dimensions rapidly. We have a proverb in England which says that “it is ill weeds which grow apace,” and, therefore, what I hope for in the matter of Local Self-Government and the admission of natives of India to an increasing share in the administration of their own affairs, is that it should have a gradual and steady, rather than a rapid progress. Gentlemen, it will afford me great pleasure to lay at the feet of our gracious Sovereign the expressions of your loyalty. I need not tell you the deep interest which the Queen-Empress feels in her Indian subjects. I did not need this assurance of the loyalty by which you are animated, but I rejoice to receive it, and I know that it will afford gratification and plea-

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sure to that illustrious lady who rules over India and England.

And now, gentlemen, it only remains for me to wish you heartily farewell. When I am in my own country, my thoughts will often turn to India with feelings of deep interest for her welfare and regard for her people. I thank you for the kindness which you have shown me to-day, and I heartily wish you every prosperity. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS AT THE MAHOMEDAN ANGLO-ORIENTAL COLLEGE.

18th Nov. 1884. [From the Railway Station the Viceroy drove to the Mahomedan Anglo-Oriental College, the route being ornamented with flags and banners and triumphal arches. At the College the Viceroy was received by Mr. Syed Ahmed, Mr. Beck, the principal, Mr. Syed Mahmood, and the Collegiate Staff. The pupils were assembled in their various class-rooms. The Viceroy walked through these and the dormitories, and after a complete examination of the building, was carried in a silver *tonjon* along a covered way draped with red cloth to a large tent pitched upon the site on which is hereafter to be erected the principal Hall of the College. Here a large audience, consisting of the students of the College and the local community of Aligarh, had gathered, and Lord Ripon, having taken his seat on a throne richly ornamented with silver, Mr. Justice Mahmood proceeded to read a very eloquently written address, giving an historical account of the College, and dwelling at considerable length on the Viceroy's educational policy and his general administration. In rising to reply to it, His Excellency, who was received with hearty applause, spoke as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I can assure you that it is a great pleasure to me to have been able to visit this interesting institution upon the present occasion and to have received from you so cordial a greeting. (*Applause.*) My attention has long been called to this College, and I have watched its progress with much interest. To-day I have had the honour of actually seeing the buildings which have been erected and

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the work which is going on here, and I have been greatly gratified to observe the progress which has already been made, the comforts which you have provided for your students, and the ample means of instruction which you have placed at their disposal. The success which has up to this time attended your efforts is to me a source of great satisfaction (*applause*), not only because of the interest which I have long taken in this College on account of its connection with my esteemed friend Syed Ahmed, whose acquaintance I had the pleasure of making on my first arrival in India, but also because I see in that success a proof of what can be done in this country in the matter of education by the power of private enterprise and individual personal influence; for I am strongly convinced that it is only by private munificence and private management supplementing the efforts of the Government that we can hope to solve the difficult and important problem of public education in India in a complete and thorough manner. (*Applause.*) You, gentlemen, have said in your address that self-help is still alive in your community. You cannot have a better augury of the success which is likely to attend your efforts. You tell me that one of the main objects of the founders of this institution was to combine religious and secular education. With that object, as I think you know, I heartily sympathise (*applause*), for I hold the belief, which is not perhaps very common in these days, that the division between those two branches of education which go by the name of religious and secular is altogether an artificial division, and that a complete education can only be secured by their close and intimate union. Again, gentlemen, in your address I find mention made of another object which you have set before you with which I most cordially sympathise. You say that it is one of the special features of this institution to prepare students for completing their education in England. To my mind that is a very great object of public and political

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importance. (*Applause.*) The more able and intelligent young men from India can be induced to go to England to complete their education there in the schools and universities of that country, the better both for India and for England. (*Applause.*) Those who go there will learn what are the true sentiments of the English people towards the people of India (*applause*), and I venture to assure them that they will find them friendly and sympathetic (*applause*), while Englishmen will derive much benefit from knowing what are the abilities, the feelings and the aspirations of educated natives of this country. (*Applause.*) Gentlemen, I have derived great pleasure from the manner in which you have spoken at the beginning of this address of the educational policy of the British Government. Your words are well worth repeating, and therefore I will read them again. You say,—“The educational policy adopted by the Government of India about half a century ago—a policy with which the great name of Lord Macaulay will always be associated—was emphasised in 1854, and has since produced results which find no parallel in the history of the world. For never before in the history of mankind has there been a spectacle like the British rule in India, where, along with the establishment of peace, the administration of justice, the introduction of the ordinary comforts of civilised life, one of the main principles of Government is to promote education and to advance enlightenment among a vast population whom Providence has placed under the administration of statesmen of a foreign race and creed.” That description of the British policy in this country is, I am proud to think, a just description (*applause*), and there is no part of our administration in this great peninsula upon which we may more fairly rest our claim to the thanks of the people of India. (*Applause.*) It is indeed, gentlemen, as you remark, a striking spectacle—unique I believe in history—that a Government, such as the English Government in

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this country, should deliberately, and of its own free will, conduct its administration under the criticism of a free Press, and that it should make it one of its chief objects to promote to the widest possible extent the education of all classes of the people. (*Loud and continued applause.*) That England should have done, and should be doing this, is, to my mind, one of her highest titles to honour among the nations of the world (*applause*), and one which I earnestly hope she will never forfeit. (*Continued applause*). Gentlemen, the work which has been done during the last thirty or forty years in India in the matter of secondary and higher education must not on any account be slackened; on the contrary, it must be extended and developed to the utmost, and with that view we must call in to help in that great work all agencies of every description; and I see in the success of this institution the hope and the promise that that assistance will be given to the Government by private munificence and religious zeal. (*Applause.*) But it is not only for the instruction of the higher and the middle classes that we have to provide. The benefits of our teaching must now-a-days be carried down to the masses of the population, and it was with the object of ascertaining how that could best be done that the Government, two years ago, appointed an Education Commission which has taken a complete survey of the educational condition of the country (*applause*), and it is, naturally, to that object that the Resolution which we have recently issued has mainly been directed. Here, too, we must appeal to the co-operation of all classes of the community, and especially to those to whom God has given a larger share of wealth, and who therefore are bound to come forward and aid in the instruction of their poorer countrymen. (*Applause.*) Gentlemen, having spoken of our recent Resolution, there is a matter connected with it on which I should like to say a few words, because it relates to a

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question in which the majority of those who are present here to-day naturally feel a deep interest. In that Resolution we have spoken of the question of expanding and improving the education of the Mahomedan community as a special question. (*Applause.*) Now, gentlemen, when we called that question a special question we did not mean thereby that we contemplated giving any advantages to the Mahomedan community inconsistent with perfect fairness and equality towards all other classes of the people. I am quite sure that you yourselves would be the last to desire anything of the kind. (*Applause.*) What we mean is that, in consequence of those circumstances in the past to which you have alluded in your address, your position in regard to this great question is somewhat special and peculiar, and that, therefore, we are prepared in applying the general principles of our educational policy, which must be alike for all, to your community, to consider how far the application which we make of them should in any degree be special and different to that which may be suitable for other classes. It is a source of regret to me, gentlemen, that I have not myself been able to deal with this particular branch of the question before I leave India. I might, of course, have composed half a dozen paragraphs out of my own head and inserted them in the recent Resolution, or I might have resorted to the able pen of our excellent Home Secretary, Mr. Mackenzie, and asked him to draft a few sentences on the subject. He would have done so admirably I have not the smallest doubt; but it appeared to me that this matter was eminently one upon which it was essentially necessary that, before taking any action, the Government should consult the representative men of the Mahomedan community. (*Applause.*) The less inclined we are to give you special privileges—the less able we are to spend large sums of money upon any particular branch of education, the more necessary is it that we should consult with those who

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understand the matter thoroughly themselves, the wants and the feelings of their community, before we determine on the course to be taken. Well, for that purpose there was not time, and therefore I have reluctantly been obliged to leave the question unsettled during my tenure of office in India. But, gentlemen, I leave that, as I leave all other Indian questions, in excellent hands (*loud applause*), when I leave it in the hands of my old friend Lord Dufferin, who I know will deal with it, as he will deal with all the subjects which come before him, with that ability, that justice, and that judgment for which he is so eminently distinguished. (*Continued applause.*)

I was particularly struck, gentlemen, at the circumstance mentioned in your address, that a considerable number of Hindu chiefs and gentlemen had contributed to the establishment and support of this College. (*Applause.*) I rejoice greatly at that circumstance; I hold it to be most fortunate for the future prospects of India. (*Applause.*) Foremost among the names of those who have done so I find that of the late Maharaja of Patiala, the Maharaja of Benares, the Maharaja of Vizianagram, and last, but certainly not least, is found the name of a lady, the Maharanee Surnomoyee. (*Loud applause.*) It was doubtless natural that you should obtain much support from Mahomedan princes, chiefs, and gentlemen, but still I cannot help expressing my great satisfaction at finding the cordial interest which is taken in this institution by His Highness the Nizam. (*Applause.*) I shall always feel a very deep and special interest in the prosperity of that young prince. (*Applause.*) The fact that it fell to my lot to instal him the other day and to be the first Viceroy of India who had ever visited Hyderabad, apart from his own personal merits, will always make me watch his career with the keenest sympathy. (*Applause.*) Next on the honourable roll of your supporters I find the name of that distinguished statesman whom India has lately lost,

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my friend Sir Salar Jung (*applause*), whose premature and untimely death was a misfortune alike to the State which he ruled and to the British Government in India. But he has left behind him a representative in his son of whom I have high hopes. (*Applause.*) I trust that he will walk in the footsteps of his father and will prove himself a worthy son. (*Applause.*) To the Nizam and to his Minister the cordial and hearty support of the Government of India is fully ensured. (*Applause.*) The Nawab of Rampore has been also a liberal supporter of this institution, and I observe his name in the list with satisfaction. It would take too long if I were to go through the roll of those chiefs and gentlemen who, in a lesser degree, have aided in this great work, but I cannot help expressing my great satisfaction at finding upon the list of your benefactors the names of some of my most distinguished countrymen—of Lord Northbrook, Lord Lytton, Sir William Muir, and Sir John Strachey. I have had brought to my notice, gentlemen, the assistance which has been given in many ways to this institution by Moulvie Samiullah Khan (*applause*), and I am very glad to have this opportunity of returning him my own thanks, and I have no doubt that I may return him the thanks of all present on this occasion for his valuable services to the College. (*Loud applause.*) Gentlemen, you are all aware that when Lord Northbrook was lately sent to Egypt he asked that he might have the assistance upon his staff of a Mahomedan gentleman from this country. The Moulvie was selected for that purpose, and I am quite sure that he discharged ably the duties which were entrusted to him. (*Applause.*) But it is not merely for the purpose of thanking him that I have drawn attention to that fact. It is that I may ask you to observe the proof which this circumstance affords of the readiness of the British Government to employ natives of India outside their own country (*loud and prolonged applause*) upon suitable occasions

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as opportunity may offer ; and I would also hope that you will see in the fact of Lord Northbrook's desire to have such assistance, a sign of the confidence which your late Governor General learnt while he was in India to place in the native gentlemen of this country. (*Applause.*)

Gentlemen,—Towards the close of your address you speak in warm and friendly terms of the general character of my administration ; that men so intelligent and so experienced as those from whom this address emanates should have formed so favourable an estimate of the course which I have pursued in India is very gratifying to me. (*Applause.*) I cannot, indeed, conceal from myself that your friendly sentiments have unduly heightened the colours of the picture which you have drawn (*no, no*), but you have rightly understood the principles by which I have been guided and the objects at which I have aimed. Foremost among those objects has been the desire to promote public education in the fullest and widest sense of the word (*applause*)—the intellectual, the political, and the moral education of the people. You, in your own sphere and manner, are working for the same great end, supported by all the brilliant memories of the Mahomedan civilisation of the past, and enlightened by the wider and more liberal spirit of modern times ; you are engaged here, I am convinced, upon a great work of public utility, and therefore it is right that I, before I lay down my office, should follow the example of my predecessors and should come here to acknowledge your services and to encourage you in your labours. (*Applause.*) I do so most heartily, and I confidently believe that there lies before this institution a long and shining course of usefulness and success. Gentlemen, I heartily wish you farewell. (*Loud and prolonged applause.*)

[At the conclusion of the Viceroy's speech Syed Ahmed rose and called for "three cheers for His Excellency the Marquis of Ripon," which were energetically and heartily given.]

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ADDRESS FROM THE SHERWANI AFGHAN
ASSOCIATION,

18th Nov. 1884. [On leaving the Anglo-Oriental College, the Viceroy drove to the residence of Syed Ahmed, where, after luncheon, he received an address from the Sherwani Afghan Association, a body representing an Afghan community which had settled in Aligarh for generations. The address was of the usual complimentary character, and, replying to it, Lord Ripon spoke as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I am very glad to have the opportunity of meeting the members of this Association, representing a community which migrated from the distant country of Afghanistan some four centuries ago, and settled here in the midst of Hindostan. It is very pleasant to me to find from your address that after the vicissitudes of four hundred years you recognise the benefits which you are receiving under British rule. I can assure you I feel much satisfaction that it has been during my administration of Indian affairs that a Mahomedan gentleman has been for the first time elevated to a seat in one of the Indian High Courts, and I feel yet further satisfaction in the fact that on account of his well-known merits, the choice has fallen on my friend Mr. Justice Mahmood. My desire, since I came to this country, has always been to dispense equal justice to Hindus and Mahomedans, and I have wished to see them share in due proportion the honours of the public service. The objects of your Association, as you describe them in this address, where you say that it is your purpose to educate the children of a people most of whom are illiterate, to remove from them the ignominy which they have brought upon themselves, and to convert them into loyal British subjects, are worthy of all approval; I am therefore very glad to have this opportunity of making your acquaintance, and I wish you all success of every kind

Address from the Bharut Varshya National Association.

in your laudable efforts to improve the condition of the community to which you belong. Gentlemen, if the people of this country shall hereafter, when I have left these shores, think of me kindly, it will be the best reward that I can receive for my labours here; and if I have been able to do anything, as you intimate, to bind the subjects of our Gracious Queen-Empress by closer ties of loving and dutiful attachment to the Crown, I shall have attained one of the highest objects of my desire. Gentlemen, I heartily thank you for your address. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESS FROM THE BHARUT VARSHYA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

[The Viceroy next drove to the Aligarh Institute, where a numerous 18th Nov. 1884, gathering had assembled. On his arrival, His Excellency was conducted to a beautiful crystal throne placed at the head of the principal Hall of the Institute. An address was then read on behalf of the Bharut Varshya National Association, the subject of which will be apparent from Lord Ripon's reply, which was as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—Accept, I beg of you, my best thanks for the address which you have just presented to me. I assure you that it has afforded me much pleasure to have had the opportunity of visiting this district before the time arrives at which I shall leave this country. I shall carry away with me from India many pleasant recollections of the famous cities which I have visited, of the beautiful works of art which I have seen, and of the lovely scenes of natural beauty which it has been my good fortune to behold; but, gentlemen, there is one circumstance, the memory of which will never fade from my recollection, and that is, the many proofs of kindness which I have received in different parts of this country

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since my approaching departure was first announced. I shall always be grateful to those who have shown me that kindness, and who have led me to believe that they appreciate justly the spirit in which I have endeavoured to discharge the duties of the great office which I have had the honour to fill. Gentlemen, you have alluded to various measures of my administration. I will not touch upon them in detail now—time would not permit me to do so; all that I need say about them is that those measures of which you have made mention, and others which have been adopted during the four and a half years which I have been at the head of the Government of India, have been dictated by an earnest desire on the part of myself and of my colleagues to promote in all ways in our power the progress of the people of this country. (*Applause.*) And, gentlemen, I must take this opportunity of reminding you that the Government of India is a composite Government, consisting of several members, and of tendering to those distinguished gentlemen with whom I have been associated during the course of my Viceroyalty, my hearty thanks for the cordial manner in which they have co-operated with me, and for the valuable assistance which they have afforded me. When I first landed upon these shores, as you are well aware, India was still engaged in hostilities beyond her north-western frontier. My first duty was to endeavour to bring those hostilities to a close (*applause*); and after I had accomplished that object, so important for the welfare of the country, I had to deal with a variety of important questions of internal administration, which had been pushed aside in consequence of the untoward war in which during the two years previous to 1880 this country had been involved. I took up those questions as they came; I did not seek them out, and I treated each of them in the manner which seemed to me to be most advantageous to the highest and most vital interests of the various classes of the community.

Address from the Bharut Varshya National Association.

(*Applause.*) Gentlemen, the Government with which I have been connected has striven to diminish the burden of taxation, to advance the material prosperity of India, and to raise and educate her people. (*Applause.*) We have endeavoured to admit the natives of this country more freely to a share in the administration of their own affairs, and to fit them for further admission hereafter. (*Applause.*) It is for others to judge of the success of our efforts; I can only speak of the spirit in which we have laboured, and your address shows me that you have entered into and sympathised with that spirit. Gentlemen, you say that you hope India will always occupy a place in my heart, and that I shall render a helping hand whenever an opportunity may occur. You may rely upon it that, even amid all the occupations and duties of my own country, my heart will often turn to India (*loud applause*), and that if I should hereafter, at any time, be able to help her forward in the course of progress, or advance the interests of her people, she will not find me wanting in that which will be only the discharge of a duty which it will ever be a pleasure to me to perform. Gentlemen, I heartily wish you good-bye. (*Loud and prolonged applause.*)

[The Viceroy, who had been accompanied during the day by Mr. H. W. Primrose, Lord Beresford, and other members of his staff and the local officials, then drove to the railway station, and, after taking a cordial farewell of Syed Ahmed and his friends, left at 4-30 for Agra. As the train left the station Their Excellencies were loudly cheered by the assembly on the platform, and showers of rose leaves were scattered on the carriages as they passed.]

ADDRESS FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF MUTTRA.

21st Nov. 1884. [On Thursday morning, the 20th November, at 11 o'clock, His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. H. W. Primrose, Mr. Durand, Foreign Secretary, Lord W. Beresford, and Mr. Kaye, Commissioner of Agra, General Marter, Commanding the troops at Agra, and a number of other Staff and Railway officials, left Agra by special train for Muttra. Some of the stations *en route* where the train halted for a brief space were prettily decorated, and the Muttra railway station itself, which was reached a little after one o'clock, was bright with bunting of various colours. Here the Viceroy and Sir A. Lyall were received by Mr. Burkitt, the Collector, and a large number of local officials and Native gentlemen. After the usual introductions had been gone through, the Viceroy was conducted to a *shamianah* outside the railway station, where an Address was presented to him by the Municipal Committee of Muttra. The Address welcomed the Viceroy to Muttra, expressed the loyalty and attachment of the inhabitants to the Queen-Empress, and acknowledged the benefits which the country had derived from British rule; it remarked on the peaceful character of His Excellency's tenure of office, and the wisdom of the policy of promoting the construction of Protective and Productive Public Works. The other points of the Address are referred to in His Excellency's reply, which was as follows:—]

Sir Alfred Lyall and Gentlemen,—I assure you that I expect to derive very great gratification from my visit to this ancient and interesting city. I am aware of the many historical memories which gather round this town, and which haunt, as I may say, this district; and I am exceedingly glad that an opportunity has occurred to enable me to come here before I leave India, to see a place so full of all that is attractive to the student of history and the lover of art. I also thank you heartily for the address which you have presented to me, and for the kindly feelings which you have expressed in that address. I have received, I need not say, with great satisfaction the assurances which you have given me of your loyalty to Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress. The devoted attachment of Her Majesty's Indian subjects is a brighter jewel in Her Royal

Address from the Municipality of Muttra.

Treasury than the Koh-i-Noor itself. I rejoice to find, gentlemen, how fully you appreciate the benefits which you have derived from British rule. In some sense the most fundamental, though not the highest, duty of every Government is to maintain tranquillity throughout its dominions, and the peace which now reigns in India, from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin, shows how well the British Government is able to discharge that duty. I am thankful to say that by God's blessing the period of my administration in India has, with a few insignificant exceptions, been one of unbroken order. It is in the security which a firm and just administration affords that civilisation progresses, that commerce and industry flourish, and it is only under the shadow of that security that any Government is able to devote itself to its higher duties and to lead the way in the path of true progress. I am glad to find that you so fully realise the value of the development of railway communications in India. There is, as you have truly said, great scope for further progress in that matter, and the extended proposals which were made some time ago by the Government of India upon that subject have now been endorsed by a Committee of the House of Commons in England, and we shall proceed under the fostering care of my honourable colleague Mr. Hope to carry them out with all convenient speed.

Gentlemen,—I have observed with great pleasure the just terms of esteem and confidence in which you speak of your distinguished Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Alfred Lyall. His conspicuous abilities and his wide experience eminently fit him for the great position which he holds, and in which he has entirely fulfilled the expectations which I formed when I appointed him to that post. You speak with approbation of the management of the finances of this country during the last four and a half years, and you describe that management as skilful. For that, gentlemen—for the skill which has marked the administration of our

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finances and the success which has attended it—you have to thank my honorable colleagues, Sir Evelyn Baring and Sir Auckland Colvin, rather than myself; for they have devoted themselves with the utmost ability and zeal to the discharge of the important functions to which they have been called in the government of this country.

Gentlemen of the Municipal Committee,—I heartily wish you all success in the discharge of the duties with which you are entrusted. I have learnt with great satisfaction that, at the recent elections here at Muttra, almost the whole of the voting population came to the poll and recorded their votes. That is a gratifying proof of the interest which is felt here in Municipal institutions, and it shows that you, gentlemen of the Municipality, are the true representatives of the people of this district. I can assure you that I shall watch from distant England the progress which is made by the cities, towns, and districts of India in the administration of their local affairs. I trust and believe that under the system which has been inaugurated by the Government of India and carried out and applied with so much care and thought by my honourable friend Sir Alfred Lyall in these Provinces, a substantial step will have been taken towards training the people in the management of their own local affairs. Gentlemen, time presses, I have many interesting things to see, and therefore I will conclude by once more thanking you most sincerely for your address and for the kind reception which you have given me. (*Applause.*)

[The Viceroy, Sir Alfred Lyall, and the rest of the party then drove to Brindabun in carriages, the escort consisting of the 3rd Dragoon Guards. At Brindabun the Viceroy visited some of the famous temples at the place, and was afterwards entertained at luncheon by Seth Lachman Dass, a wealthy Banker of Muttra, who had asked the principal residents of Muttra to meet His Excellency and the Lieutenant-Governor. The Viceroy returned to Muttra shortly after 4 o'clock, and arrived again at Agra at six in the evening.]

ADDRESSES AT AGRA. THE AGRA MUNICIPALITY.

[At 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the 21st November, His Excellency the Viceroy, accompanied by Sir Alfred Lyall, drove to the Municipal Hall, where the Municipal Committee presented him with a farewell Address, the subject of which will be apparent from His Excellency's reply, which was as follows :—]

Sir Alfred Lyall and Gentlemen,—I receive your Address with pleasure, and I sincerely thank you for it. I could not have been content to leave India without visiting Agra once more, if it had merely been for the purpose of feasting my eyes with the beauties of the Taj. But, gentlemen, it is an additional satisfaction to me to have received this address at your hands to-day, and to find, from the words which you have employed, that in your opinion I have taken efficient steps as the head of the Government of India, during the three years that have elapsed since I was last in this city, to realise the hopes and expectations which I then raised. Looking back at the observations which I then addressed to the Municipal Committee of that time, I think that I may fairly claim that I have accomplished more than I promised on that occasion. Among the measures of the Government of India which you have enumerated in your address, there are some which were specially directed to benefiting the agricultural classes. I remember, gentlemen, that three years ago I told you that the attention of the Government was then being very carefully directed to the consideration of those measures which might be required for the prevention and for the relief of famine; that most grave question had been brought under our consideration by the interesting and important report of the Famine Commission; and to the recommendations of that report we were giving our close attention. I remember that I said that we had just obtained the sanction of the Secretary of State to the re-establishment of the Revenue and Agricultural Depart-

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ment of the Government of India, and I mentioned that I had selected, as the Secretary of the Department, Mr. Buck, a member of the Civil Service, connected with the North-Western Provinces. Gentlemen, I am glad to avail myself of this opportunity of saying that I have never for one moment doubted the propriety of the choice which I then made of a Secretary for the new Department, for I have found Mr. Buck a most zealous officer, thoroughly acquainted with his duties, and devoted to the interests of the agricultural population. Among the methods for preventing famine, none, perhaps, are more effectual than the extension of railway and road communication throughout the country, and to that subject, therefore, the Government from the year 1881 have given a careful attention, which is now, I hope, with the sanction of the Government at home, about to bear fruit in the actual commencement of a more active railway policy. But you, gentlemen, have alluded in your address to other matters connected with famine relief and agricultural policy, upon which the views of the Government of India, as you remind me, have been expressed in the various Resolutions issued from time to time in the reconstituted Revenue and Agricultural Department. Among other things, one of these Resolutions lays down the principles upon which, as it seems to us, suspensions and remissions of revenue ought to be regulated in times of distress. We may, I hope, fairly claim that in most districts the land revenue is fairly assessed, but I believe that it is often felt that the system of an even revenue, intended to be paid alike in good and in bad seasons, does not possess the necessary amount of elasticity, and that when bad times come upon the country, it is desirable to have recourse to measures of relief, and to make suspensions and remissions of revenue according to the extent of the distress which may occur. It was to set forth the principle on which this should be done, and to make the levy of the

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land revenue more elastic, that the Resolution of the Government to which I have alluded was issued. Again, we put out a Resolution dealing with the periods at which the land revenue should be paid, so as to make them, as we hoped, more generally suitable to the convenience of the tax-payer; and it was mentioned in the last Financial Statement of my honourable friend Sir Auckland Colvin (and, therefore, I am revealing no secret of Government in referring to it) that the Government of India were in communication with the Secretary of State on the subject of the realisation of future assessments of land revenue, with a view to afford to the payers of revenue a greater amount of certainty and security as to the amount of those assessments, and the principles on which they should be made. Our plans on that subject have not yet been brought to maturity. It will rest with my successor to finish the work in this respect which we have commenced; but I believe that the question is, perhaps, the most important to the vital interests of the great mass of the population with which the Government of India has to deal. You have mentioned, gentlemen, the subject of Agricultural Banks. That is a question in which I, personally, feel a strong interest, but it is by no means devoid of certain practical difficulties in India. It seemed, therefore, to the Government that the true course to pursue was to make a practical experiment,—not to devise a scheme for Agricultural Banks all over the country out of our own heads and to set it up, but to take a district in which the scheme might have a fair trial; letting the trial take place under the most favourable circumstances we could devise, so as to ascertain what real difficulties might exist in the way of carrying out the plan generally, and to learn by experience to what extent such institutions are suitable to the requirements of the people, and in what way they can best be organised in India. We have submitted our proposals on the subject to the Secretary of State, and I have

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great hopes that it will not be very long before a real practical and *bonâ fide* trial of this kind will be made in some portion of India.

Gentlemen,—Naturally enough your address, emanating as it does from the Municipality of this city, deals more largely with the subject of Local Self-Government and municipal institutions than with any other questions. I have, during the last few days, made a variety of observations upon that question, and those observations have been recorded by those nimble-fingered gentlemen, of whom I see one opposite to me now, who take down our words on these occasions, and have, therefore, become the property of the public, so that I cannot very well indulge in the easy process of saying now to you exactly what I said to the Municipality at Delhi. I think, however, that there are some points bearing specially upon the question of Municipal institutions in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh to which I may invite your attention for a few moments without going over the ground which I have previously traversed. And, gentlemen, as I am speaking to the representatives of this city, I shall mainly confine what I have to say to Municipal institutions, more especially because the new Local Boards are not yet in operation in this Province, although I have reason to believe that the necessary orders for giving effect to the new Act will soon be issued. As regards the Local and District Boards, however, I have one observation which I should like to make, and it is this—I trust very much that the leading men in the various rural districts in the country will come forward now when the call is made upon them and take an active part in the working of the new system. I attach great importance to the system being placed in the hands of the best men in each district, and I believe that in this my honourable friend the Lieutenant-Governor fully concurs. Now, gentlemen, turning to the position of Municipalities in these

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Provinces, I would remind you that the adoption of the elective system to a certain extent in Municipalities is not at all a new thing in the North-Western Provinces. When I came to look into this question first some three years ago, I found that, in the matter of election, more had been done already in the North-Western Provinces than in any other part of India, with the exception of the Central Provinces under the administration of my friend Sir John Morris. But nevertheless, although that is true, and although you here in Agra, for instance, have practised the system of election for a considerable number of years, the recent arrangements made by the Lieutenant-Governor have considerably increased the number of Municipalities to which that system has been applied. Under the old system, I find, by figures supplied to me by the officials of the Province, that election existed in 72 out of 107 Municipal bodies in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh. It has since been established in 97 out of 108. Well, that is a considerable increase from 72 to 97, and is an important development of the system of election ; but that statement by no means gives a complete account of what has already been done in this matter during the last three years, because under the new arrangements which have been brought into force by Sir Alfred Lyall, I find this important fact : Under the old system the ratio or proportion of elected to appointed members in the Municipalities of this Province was as 47 to 53 ; it is now as 83 to 17. Take your own case for instance. I find that, under the old system, your members were 25 ; they are now 31. Formerly you elected but 17 members ; now you elect 27. These are important changes, and indicate a substantial advance in the trial of the electoral system in this Province. The step has been wise and cautious, as was to be expected from my friend Sir Alfred Lyall, whose ability and enlightenment you so justly recognise in your address ; but the advance is real and effect-

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ive ; and, as you truly remark, it remains now for you, the chosen representatives of your fellow-citizens, to show that you are worthy, as I believe you to be, of the trust reposed in you. Sir Alfred Lyall tells me that in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh the results of the recent Municipal elections have, in his opinion, been remarkably satisfactory. This is very encouraging. If you address yourselves to your duties in the spirit of the words contained in your address, the expectations of your Lieutenant-Governor and myself will not be disappointed. You speak, gentlemen, also of the forbearance, patience, and courtesy towards each other which you desire to display in the transaction of Municipal business. I have heard those words with great pleasure, for I know of nothing more important to the political and social advancement of India, than the abandonment of prejudices and animosities, and the cultivation of a spirit of mutual co-operation for the public good. (*Applause.*) Gentlemen, it is for you, in this imperial city, to set, in that and in all respects, a bright example to other towns. Many eyes will watch you ; some with friendly anxiety that you may do your duty faithfully, and some with readiness to note and to exaggerate every mistake into which you may fall. It is for you to show of what stuff you are made. The opportunity has been given to you ; use it well, and you will earn the thanks of the Government, and the gratitude of your fellow-townsmen. Gentlemen, I shall say farewell to Agra with regret. Both my visits to this your city have been full of interest and of pleasure ; I earnestly trust that it may please God to bless your city and to crown your labours with success. (*Applause.*)

ADDRESSES AT AGRA. AGRA COLLEGE.

[Saturday, the 22nd November, was chiefly spent by Lord Ripon ^{22nd Nov 1831.} in visiting the Colleges at Agra, and in receiving and replying to addresses presented by these Institutions. At 11-30 A.M., accompanied by Mr. H. W. Primrose, the Revd. H. S. Kerr, Captains Rochfort and Burne, and with an escort of his own Body-guard, His Excellency visited the Agra College, where he received four addresses, *vis.*, from the Committee of Management of the Agra College, the Victoria College, the Mufid-i-Am School, and the Technical Education Committee. The more important points of these addresses will be apparent from Lord Ripon's reply. His Excellency was received at the entrance by Sir Alfred Lyall, Mr. Kaye, the Commissioner, Mr. Finlay, the Collector, and other local and College officials; a number of native gentlemen were also present, among whom were Nawab Faiz Ali Khan, Raja Sir Dinkur Rao, Raja Luchman Singh, the Raja of Jaunpore, Rajas Shunker Singh, Joy Kissen Dass, and others. His Excellency replied collectively to the four addresses, and in doing so spoke as follows :—]

Sir Alfred Lyall and Gentlemen,—You, gentlemen, who are connected with the management of the Agra College are quite right when you say in the address which you have just presented to me that I feel a great interest in this institution. Indeed, I will go so far as to say, that a desire to visit the Agra College, under its present management, occupied a prominent place among the motives which prompted me to come to Agra upon this occasion. When the Government determined, reluctantly, to close this College as a Government institution, on account of the small number of pupils and the great cost per head of the establishment, it was always my wish that a body of native gentlemen should be found to undertake the management and to keep its endowments together, and therefore, when my friend Sir Alfred Lyall sent up to the Government proposals with that view, I received them with the greatest satisfaction and gladly gave them my support. For, gentlemen, what you then undertook to do, and what you are doing now in the management of this restored College, is precisely what I most desire, and what I hope will be

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done elsewhere more and more as time goes on. (*Cheers.*) When I had the honour of addressing the Convocation of the Calcutta University two years ago, I took the opportunity of earnestly pressing upon the friends of education in this country the importance, upon a variety of grounds which I then set forth, of enlisting the hearty co-operation of private gentlemen in the great work of education in India. Yours was the first response to the call which I then made, and the work which you are doing here has therefore naturally a special claim upon my attention. I am very glad to find from your address that you consider that the lines laid down by the Government for your guidance in the conduct of this institution were just and fair, and it is very gratifying to me to learn that the results obtained up to the present time by this College under your management are such as to afford reasonable hope that a full measure of success will ultimately be attained. The figures which you have laid before me in your address, both as to the increase in the number of students, and the diminution in the cost per head, afford me much satisfaction; and if you are right in saying that in some other respects the results of your first year of management have not been so satisfactory as you hoped for, I have every confidence that better results will hereafter be attained. I should look upon it as a public misfortune if this experiment were to fail, and I would earnestly call upon all those, especially in this part of the country, who are interested in the cause of native education under native management, to come forward, and give their hearty support to this institution. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, I have observed with peculiar pleasure the terms in which you speak in your address of the other educational institutions which exist in this city of Agra. I see in your language on this subject a most gratifying proof of the just and generous spirit in which you regard your fellow labourers in the great work of education. Working thus together, pursuing each in his own way a

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common end, the friends of education in Agra are providing means of training, suitable to all classes of the community, and are securing that variety of instruction which, for my part, I believe to be so important an element of a sound educational system. It is the duty of the Government of India to be perfectly impartial in dealing with the various educational institutions in this country, and with the agencies by which those institutions are maintained. What we have to do is to see that they give a good secular education, in return for such aid as they may receive from the public funds, and to lay down fair and equal rules by which that aid should be distributed amongst them. (*Cheers.*)

Gentlemen of the Victoria College,—I have listened with great interest to your address, and I fully recognise the good work which your institution is doing in this city. You tell me that the aim which you have set before yourselves is high. It is well that it should be so (*hear, hear, and cheers* ; for unless men aim high in their undertakings, it is certain that they will effect but little. We all fall short of the ideals which we set before us, and it is therefore the more important that those ideals should be the highest within our reach. (*Cheers.*) I shall be very happy, in compliance with your request, to allow my name to be connected with the scholarship of which you have spoken, and with the school of art which you hope to establish in this city if it should be founded on a proper and satisfactory footing. (*Cheers*)

I have also to thank the Manager, Teachers and students of the Mufid-i-Am School for their address, and I wish that every success may attend their institution. It has done good service to education in this city, and it will, I hope, long continue to do equally good work in the future.

I am also much obliged to the members of the Technical Education Committee for their address. The promotion of technical education in India is a matter of great importance, and it is one to which the attention of the Government will, I trust, be directed at an early period.

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(*Cheers.*) A great deal of valuable information on this subject has lately been collected by a Royal Commission in England, and will be of much use, I have no doubt, in dealing with the questions connected with this matter. Gentlemen, your address shows me that you fully apprehend the principles which must guide the conduct of the Government in regard to the purchase in this country of the manufactured articles which they may require. The Government cannot purchase articles here, which can be procured cheaper elsewhere, nor can it purchase articles of inferior quality to those which can be obtained in other parts of the world. (*Cheers.*) If we were to do either of these things, we should be casting an unnecessary and unjustifiable burden upon the taxpayers of the country. (*Cheers.*) What we can do, what we have been endeavouring to do, and what I think we ought to do, is to procure in India everything that can be procured without loss in cost or quality. (*Cheers.*) You plainly see, I observe with pleasure, that it is only on these principles that the Government can act, and therefore you wisely say that the true remedy for a state of things, which you regret, lies, to use your own words, "in the promotion of technical, artistic and scientific education." These views are perfectly consistent with sound economical principles, and I am very glad to find that they are approved by you. Gentlemen, I will detain you no longer, except to thank you heartily for your address, and to assure you that I shall ever follow, with the deepest interest, the progress of the institutions whose representatives I have had the pleasure of meeting to-day. (*Loud and continued cheers.*)

[Pundit Ajudiya Nath, a former student of the Agra College, here proposed three cheers for Lord Ripon, which were enthusiastically given.]

ADDRESSES AT AGRA. ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE.

[On leaving the Agra College the Viceroy drove to St. John's College, 22nd Nov. 1884, where an Address was read by the Principal. In replying to it, His Excellency said :—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you for the address which you have presented to me, and am very glad to have been able on this occasion to visit this institution, not only on account of the good educational work which it is doing, but also because it is an institution, one of the founders of which was my friend Sir William Muir, who felt so deep an interest in the welfare of the Province over which he ruled, and in the cause of education. As you are aware, the Government of India, whatever may be the private feelings of its individual members, can only look at this and other similar institutions in the light of the secular instruction given in them; but the Government is ready and anxious to avail themselves of every opening for the promotion of the great work of education. I feel very strongly that that work is so important, and in many respects so difficult, that we are bound to make use of every instrument that comes to our hand to promote and carry it forward. You, gentlemen, if I mistake not, recognise the Despatch of 1854 which was sent out to this country under the direction of my noble friend Lord Halifax, as, so to speak, the charter of public education in India. I do not mean to say that men before that day, such as Lord Macaulay, Mr. Mountstuart Elphinstone, and others, had not laboured for this great object; but, officially, it may be said the Despatch of 1854 laid the foundation of the present educational system in this country. Before I left England, after my appointment to the office which I have now the honour to fill, I received a deputation on this subject, headed by Lord Halifax himself, and I then gave the gentlemen who waited upon me the assurance that the question of public education in this coun-

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try should receive my most careful consideration. It seemed to me, when I had time to consider the subject here, and to discuss it with my colleagues in the Government of India, that after thirty years, or nearly so, had elapsed, from the date of the Despatch of 1854, the time had come when it was desirable that a complete review of the results of that despatch should be taken, and that information should be collected on every hand as to the mode in which the principles laid down had been applied, and the results which had been attained by their application. The Government, therefore, appointed an Education Commission to enquire into the whole subject of primary and secondary education in India, and the Commission, after a long and careful examination, presented to us a most valuable report which furnished us with most interesting information. That report, I am glad to say, the Government in my time have had an opportunity of examining, and we have recently put forth a Resolution, founded upon the general recommendations made by the Commission, and upon principles which have received the sanction of Her Majesty's Government at home. I am glad to think that that Resolution appears to be received with general favour by those interested in the cause of education in this country. You will observe, gentlemen, how fully in that Resolution we recognise the principle that we should avail ourselves of all the means that private enterprise of every description affords, in order to promote the great work which we have in hand. We have undoubtedly laid it down in our Resolution that the attention of Government ought now to be turned very specially to primary education. I am glad to find that you yourselves, though engaged in education of a higher description, fully recognise the importance of that object. But when I say that the attention of Government must be turned to primary education, I do not thereby mean that we should disregard secondary education, or in any way interfere with it or check it; on the

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contrary, I wish it to spread more and more throughout the land. It is because you are engaged in that work, and doing that work, as I believe, well, that I am very glad indeed to have had the pleasure of coming here to-day. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

ADDRESSES AT AGRA. ST. PETER'S COLLEGE.

[The Viceroy next drove to St. Peter's College, where he was received by the Right Revd. Dr. Jacopi, and where an address was presented to him. To this address His Excellency replied as follows :—]

My Lord and Gentlemen,—I thank you very sincerely for the address which you have just read to me. I need scarcely say that I am very glad indeed to visit this College once more. Neither need I tell you that it has for me, personally, a very great interest, and that to hear of its continued prosperity and success is a source of high gratification to me. I earnestly hope, that under the extended and modified system of education established in connection with the recent Report of the Education Commission, your College may flourish and expand. That is my earnest desire. I esteem myself very fortunate in having been able, during the four and a half years that I have been at the head of Indian affairs, to do something for the development and improvement of education in this country; for in doing so I have only been carrying out here a work which has engaged my attention, and to which I have been much devoted from a very early period of my life; indeed from the very commencement of my public life in England. I would now, before I bid you farewell, say again a few words to the students who are gathered together in this valuable institution, and I would earnestly ask them to do their utmost to make the most, while they are here, of the many advantages which are afforded to them. My young friends, those intellectual gifts which God gives with no niggard hand to men of all

Address at St. Peter's College, Agra.

racés and classes, are a trust which you receive from Him that you may do your utmost, so far as your circumstances permit, to develop and to use them for His glory and for the good of your fellowmen. You have here an excellent educational institution and devoted teachers. I cannot but regret that I see no longer amongst you Father Symphorien, whose name I believe is so dear to all Catholics and to a large number of others in Agra. He has been taken from us to a higher sphere of duty, in which, I have no doubt, that he is working with the zeal which he ever displayed here ; but his loss to Agra is very great. He was succeeded by another Father whom I have had the pleasure of knowing—Father O'Dea—who was for a season at Simla, and I have no doubt that your present teachers are labouring in the same spirit which animated those who preceded them, and are gaining for themselves the respect and attachment of their pupils. Now, my young friends, make the best use of these advantages in this the seed time of your youth. You can now plant in the fruitful soil of your young minds the seeds of knowledge which will grow up in after-life and stand you in good stead. He, who in these days of ours, has not cultivated his mind, who is ignorant of the many things which men now know, must necessarily fall back in the race of life. I do not ask you to set before yourselves, as your highest aim, the objects of this temporary life upon earth ; but still you are bound to see that you do not turn to waste the labours of those who have collected you together, and who devote themselves to you here with the utmost earnestness ; and, therefore, I trust that you, like the many generations of pupils who have preceded you, in this, I may almost say, ancient institution, will make the same, if not a better use than they have made of the benefits which you receive here, and that I may hear, in far off England, of the continued progress of this College. (*Loud applause.*)

ADDRESSES AT ALLAHABAD.

[The Viceroy passed through Allahabad *en route* to Benares on 24th Nov. 1884. Monday morning, the 24th November, at 6 A.M. Here three deputations representing the *Residents of Allahabad*, the *Allahabad Branch of the Hindu Somaj*, and the *People of Cawnpore*, were in waiting at the Railway Station to present His Excellency with farewell addresses. On the arrival of the train the Viceroy was received by Mr. Lawrence, the Commissioner, and other local officials, and conducted to the waiting-room, where His Excellency received the deputations. The addresses, which were of the usual character, expressed gratitude for the measures of the Viceroy's administration and loyalty to the Queen-Empress. His Excellency replied to them as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you heartily for the address which you have presented to me. To you, gentlemen of Cawnpore, I return my best thanks for having come so far to place your address in my hands. I can assure you, gentlemen, that the principles on which the Government has acted during the last few years are not new. Indeed, you are well aware that they were laid down at least fifty years ago by the English Parliament, and were renewed and reinforced in Her Majesty's gracious Proclamation of 1858. I have taken these principles as my guide in the course which I have pursued since I have had the honour of filling the high office of Viceroy of India, and I have endeavoured to apply them honestly to the various questions which have arisen in the course of my administration as these questions have come before me. I have no fear that my departure from this country will in any way endanger the stability of the measures adopted by the Government of India since I have been here. The foundation which has been laid by those measures is solid (*applause*), and if the people show themselves fit for the trust which has been placed in them, and make a wise use of the measures which have been adopted for their benefit, I entertain the utmost confidence that those measures will be secure. The spread of education, the fresh life infused into local

Addresses at Allahabad.

administration, the appointment of natives to higher posts in the administration, are but forward steps in the course which has been followed by previous Governments, and you need not be alarmed that these steps will be reversed. (*Applause.*) On the contrary, my belief is that, as time goes on, a further advance will be made in the same direction. I therefore exhort you to look forward with confidence to the future, and to place your full trust in the just and righteous intentions of the British Government. I will not touch now upon the various measures to which you have alluded in the course of these addresses. I have said much with respect to them at various times during the last fortnight. I can only now thank you for your appreciation of these measures, and I most earnestly ask you to place the utmost trust and confidence in the eminent statesman to whom in a few days I shall resign the government of this country. Gentlemen, I am greatly obliged to you for the kindness you have shown me. I shall always retain the deepest interest in all that concerns your welfare, and I heartily wish you farewell. (*Applause.*)

[Three cheers for the Viceroy were proposed by Pundit Ajudhia Nath, and enthusiastically responded to. His Excellency then entered the train, which soon after proceeded on its journey. As the train moved out of the station, showers of flowers were thrown into the Viceroy's compartment.]

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ADDRESS FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF BENARES.

[The Viceroy arrived in Benares on the 26th November, after two days' successful shooting at Chakia, where His Excellency had been accompanied by the Maharaja and his eldest son. The following day at noon Lord Ripon received a farewell address from the Municipality of Benares. Long before that hour the Municipal Hall was filled with natives, the gallery being set apart for the local European community. The Viceroy was accompanied to the Hall by the Maharaja of Benares, and was received there by the President and members of the Municipal Committee, and having taken his seat with the Maharaja on his right, the address was read to him. The address thanked the Viceroy for his farewell visit to Benares, and acknowledged with gratitude the various measures of his Viceroyalty, which had been assumed under unusual difficulties arising from war and famine; they felt that the Viceroy's object in those measures was to give practical effect to the Queen's Proclamation. After alluding to His Excellency's educational policy, the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, and the Local Self-Government scheme, the address went on to remark that the Viceroy's foreign policy had relieved the Government from financial embarrassment, and enabled it to devote its energies to the development of the resources of the country, and many other important measures of internal administration. The Committee congratulated themselves and the Government on the appointment of a Governor-General so well acquainted with Oriental nations and with Russian politics as Lord Dufferin, and concluded by saying that Lord Ripon would leave the people of India happier, more contented and more loyal than he had found them, and the sovereignty of the Queen-Empress more firmly established in the hearts of the people. Loud applause greeted the conclusion of the address, to which Lord Ripon replied as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you very heartily for the address which you have just presented to me, and I can assure you that I am very glad to have had another opportunity of visiting this ancient and interesting city. I remember that when I was here three years ago, my friend, Mr. Ross, expressed a wish, I believe, on your behalf that I might be able before I left India to come to Benares again. I am very glad that the hope that was then expressed has now been realised, very much because of the princely and considerate

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hospitality of my friend, His Highness the Maharaja of Benares. (*Applause.*) But, gentlemen, I have not only to thank you for the address which you have presented, but also for the very cordial reception which you were good enough to accord to me yesterday. The recollection of the sight which I then witnessed, as I passed down the river along your ghats, will never fade from my mind, whether on account of the beauty of the scenes presented, or on account of the heartiness with which I was welcomed. (*Applause.*) Gentlemen, your recognition of the value of the principal measures of my Government is gratifying to me. You say in your address, speaking of the first words which I uttered on landing in India—"You would not then be persuaded to give us any idea of what we were to expect from your administration." No, gentlemen, I would not do so then, and for this plain reason, that I did not come out to this country with any preconceived measures which I was determined to carry into effect. I came out here desirous only to act in the spirit in which I was sent to India by our gracious Sovereign,—to promote to the utmost of my power the well-being and the prosperity of her Indian subjects, and to apply to every question as it arose those great principles which are embodied in Her Majesty's Proclamation, and which have been laid down for the guidance of the rulers of this country by Parliament and by successive administrations. (*Applause.*)

You allude in your address to various topics connected with the course of the administration of India during the last four and a half years. I will not follow you through that list, because I should only be repeating what I have already said during the last fortnight. I will, therefore, say but little upon the important matter to which you first allude—naturally the most interesting to you in this city—the question of Local Self-Government. I have had occasion to point out the substantial progress which has been made in that matter under the rule of my honourable

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friend, Sir Alfred Lyall, in the North-Western Provinces. I will only remark that here, in Benares, under the arrangements recently introduced, if I am rightly informed, your Municipality is almost entirely elective, and that that throws upon you, the chosen representatives of your fellow-citizens, a large amount of responsibility. I have great confidence that you will discharge your duties fittingly, and that, by so doing, you will give strength to the policy adopted by the Government in regard to municipal institutions in India. (*Applause.*) But, gentlemen, as I am now, approaching the frontier of the Province of Bengal, I may perhaps, be permitted for a moment to draw attention to the substantial results which have been obtained in that Province in respect to those institutions. Three years ago, outside Calcutta, there were, out of 185 Municipalities in Bengal, only three in which the elective system had been in any degree introduced. It has now been introduced by law into 170 of those Municipalities, and elections are going on at this moment, I believe, in the cities and towns of Bengal of which I trust we shall learn in a few days that the results have been thoroughly satisfactory. That, gentlemen, constitutes a real and important advance in this matter. It seems to me that with regard to this question I have done my part. What has been attained cannot be lost; it rests with you to show whether a further advance in this direction can hereafter be safely and wisely made.

It is a great gratification to me to observe from your address how fully you acknowledge the eminent qualifications of my friend, Lord Dufferin, for the appointment which Her Majesty's Government has just conferred upon him. (*Applause.*) His experience, as you truly say, specially fits him for dealing with the difficult problems connected with our relations with Russia and with Central Asian politics, and I trust that by firmness, patience, and moderation, he will be enabled to bring those problems to a solution satisfactory alike to both the great countries

Address from the Municipality of Benares.

concerned. I am happy to say that the relations of the British Government with the Amir of Afghanistan were never more friendly than they are at the present moment. If you wanted a proof of that, you would find it in the fact that the Indian portion of the Afghan Boundary Commission has just passed through the territories of His Highness the Amir, has arrived at Herat, and entered¹ that famous city and been received there with the utmost cordiality, and has now proceeded onwards to meet the Chief British Commissioner, Sir Peter Lumsden. Gentlemen, I look upon this, I confess, as a great success, for which we are largely indebted to the friendliness of the Amir of Afghanistan; but it has been attained, not only through His Highness's friendly action, but also by the great skill with which the difficulties of this undertaking have been dealt with and surmounted by Colonel Ridgeway and the other officers of the British Government, who have been sent from India in connection with that Mission, and I am very glad, indeed, to have this public opportunity of acknowledging the services of those officers, and of tendering to them the thanks of the Government of India. (*Applause.*) Gentlemen, you are right in saying that in the material and moral prosperity of the country lies the surest guarantee of the stability of the Government. It has been my effort to secure that stability by promoting to the utmost of my power that material and moral prosperity; and if it be true, as you assure me, that the sovereignty of our beloved Empress is now more firmly established in the hearts of the people than it was when I came to this country, then I have accomplished the end for which I was sent to India, and I have obtained my highest desire. (*Applause.*) Gentlemen, the memory of this beautiful city and of the kindness which you have shown me to-day will not fade, except with my life, from

¹ It is doubtful whether any part of the Commission actually entered Herat. — 10th December 1884.

Addresses at St. Xavier's College.

my recollection. I heartily thank you for it, and I most sincerely wish you farewell. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

[Their Excellencies left Benares for Darjeeling shortly after 4 P.M., His Highness the Maharaja accompanying them to the Railway Station.]

ADDRESSES AT ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, CALCUTTA.

[On Wednesday evening, the 3rd December, the Viceroy took part at St. Xavier's College, Calcutta, in the ceremony of celebrating the anniversary of the patron Saint Francis Xavier. His Excellency, who was accompanied by Father Kerr, arrived at the College at 6-30 P.M., and was received by the Archbishop, the Rector, and other Reverend Fathers of the College, and by the College students, who were assembled at the entrance and cheered heartily, while the College band performed the National Anthem. On his arrival Lord Ripon, with Father Kerr, proceeded direct to the Chapel adjoining the school-room where the "Benediction" service was performed by His Grace the Archbishop and other clergymen in full canonicals. His Excellency was then conducted to the school-room, and with His Grace the Archbishop, the Rector and others took his seat on the dais at the head of the room, which, as well as the approaches to the school, was very effectively decorated. The senior Native student then read a farewell address to His Excellency which was followed by the reading of a similar address by one of the senior Christian students. On the addresses being presented, nearly a hundred boys filed past Lord Ripon on the dais, each placing before him on the table a handsome bouquet, the whole forming quite a pyramid of flowers. In replying to the addresses His Excellency spoke as follows :—]

My young Friends—I really hardly know how to thank you for the kind and cordial welcome which you have given me. I have had now an experience of many years in public speaking, but I have encountered this evening a difficulty which never befell me before ; for never before have I been called upon to overcome the obstacle of a mountain of roses. (*Cheers and laughter.*) However, it is a very pleasant obstacle, because these roses seem to me to mark the kindly feelings which you entertain to-

Addresses at St. Xavier's College, Calcutta.

wards me, and I assure you that I sincerely thank you for the hearty welcome which you have accorded to me this evening. It has been to me a great pleasure to be able to be present here on this day—the Feast of the Patron of this Institution—of that great Saint who devoted so large a period of his life to the service of India, and who, in this country, displayed so many shining and heroic virtues. I rejoice to be here to-day, and, as it were, under his patronage to receive this proof of your kindness. You have said in your addresses that I have evinced a great interest in this College, and in the Institutions connected with it. Yes, I have felt ever since I came to India a very great interest in this College of St. Francis Xavier's, and I am very glad indeed that one of my last acts, as Viceroy of India, has been to come here and receive from this College in all its departments, this friendly greeting. (*Loud cheers.*) But in taking the interest which I have done in this Institution I have only been following the course which I have pursued now for nearly 40 years of my life; for it is a long time ago since in distant England I began to take a great interest in public education, and it is more than ten years now since I have taken—and naturally—a very great interest in all education conducted in Catholic Institutions. Therefore, when I came to India and found here in the heart of Calcutta a College doing such a good work for the youths of this great city as has been and is being done by this College of St. Francis Xavier's (*cheers*), I should have been forgetful of the whole past story of my life if I had not felt a very hearty interest in that work. And I must say that what I saw here three years ago of the ability displayed in a dramatic performance which gave so much pleasure to all who witnessed it—the excellent order which I found reigning in this Institution, and the admirable manner in which it was managed by the Fathers who devote themselves to the work (*cheers*)—all this naturally increased the interest which I had

Addresses at St. Xavier's College, Calcutta.

originally felt in this undertaking, and I have consequently followed its progress during these three years with very special attention. You tell me in one of these addresses that three years ago I spoke to you upon the subject of education, and reminded you how very much there was included in that great word. It is gratifying to me to find that what I then said has remained in your minds, not because I claim any originality for the thoughts which I then placed before you, for they were but the echo of the thoughts of wiser and better men than myself; but because they were thoughts well worthy to be retained and cherished by you. I said on that occasion that the work of education is a great and a broad work, and that it is a blessing to those who are in a position to avail themselves of the advantage of an institution of this kind to have the means of the full, complete, and unrestricted course of study which it affords. I reminded you also that education does not cease with your school time; there is offered to you here, in the fullest sense, so long as you remain, a thorough education, but when your work in this College is completed, your education does not end; it must be carried on throughout your lives; what is done for you in this College is to lay a broad and deep foundation upon which you yourselves may be enabled to erect the fabric of an honourable life hereafter when you leave this Institution. (*Loud cheers.*) You may rely upon it when I leave India I shall often think of the College of St. Francis Xavier's at Calcutta, and if those who manage it—the Rector or some one else—will from time to time send me reports of your progress, or otherwise let me know how the Institution is going on—(*loud cheers*),—it will be, I can assure you, a great pleasure to me. I shall carry away with me the recollection of this evening as one of the pleasant recollections connected with the termination of my administration in this country, and I trust that I shall hear that the good work which has been done now,

Legislative Council.

for many years by this Institution, is continually gaining strength, enlarging its scope, and doing more and more for the benefit of the people of Calcutta as time goes on (*continued cheers*); for surely it ought to be so; it ought to be, as years roll on, that this College should advance in the work in which it is engaged; that those who are here working—teachers and students alike,—under the shadow of the name of the Apostle of India, should devote themselves with ever increasing earnestness to the great and noble undertaking of labouring for the benefit of the people whom he loved so well. (*Loud and continued cheers.*)

[The Viceroy then left the College being loudly cheered by the boys on his departure.]

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE SERVICES OF MEMBERS
OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

5th Dec, 1884.

[At the close of the business before the Legislative Council on Friday the 5th December, His Excellency the President made the following remarks:—]

Before this Council adjourns to this day fortnight, this being the last meeting of the Council during my period of office as Viceroy and Governor General of India, I am anxious to avail myself of the opportunity to express my very sincere thanks to the Members of this Legislative Council, both past and present, for the very valuable assistance which they have at all times given to the Government of India in connection with the Bills which have been brought before the Council. I very fully and deeply recognise the value of their services in that respect, and I also beg to tender to them my personal acknowledgments for the aid which I have ever received from them in the consideration and discussion of the questions which have engaged the attention of this Legislative Council.

I may mention that, in accordance with the usual practice, Members of the Legislative Council will be permitted

Address on behalf of the Nizam and people of Hyderabad.

to be present when the new Viceroy takes his seat. Lord Dufferin arrives here on Saturday afternoon, the 13th instant. The arrangements for his reception will be duly notified in the *Gazette*; and the Members of this Council, who may be present to receive him, will follow him into this room, where he will take his seat.

ADDRESS ON BEHALF OF THE NIZAM AND
PEOPLE OF HYDERABAD.

[On the afternoon of the 5th December Lord Ripon received a 5th Dec. 1884. Deputation in the Throne-room at Government House, composed of noblemen of the Hyderabad State, who, on behalf of the Nizam and his subjects, consisting, to use the language employed, of blood relations of His Highness, nobles, jaghirdars, civil and military officials, zemindars, sar-desmukhs and desmukhs, sar-dispandahs and despandahs, merchants, sahkars, traders, handicraftsmen, and others, were deputed to Calcutta to present a farewell address to His Excellency (to which there were 50,000 signatures contained in two bulky volumes) "of thank-offering for all His Excellency has done during his Viceroyalty for the well-being and prosperity of the Indian subjects of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress of India." The address was enclosed in a silver casket of great artistic beauty representing a mosque, with minarets, and enchased with street and other scenes of the principal buildings at Hyderabad. The address was read in English by Nawab Khan Khana Bahadur (Syed Hossein Belgrami) who headed the deputation. The Viceroy replied to it in the following terms:—]

Gentlemen,—I am very grateful to you for the address which you have just presented to me. I assure you that it affords me much pleasure to receive such an address from the inhabitants of one of the largest and most important Native States in India. I was greatly gratified to be able, last year, to visit Hyderabad for the purpose of installing His Highness the Nizam, and, on behalf of my Sovereign the Queen-Empress of India, to place him upon the *musnud* of his State. It was an occasion of very great interest, and it was very satisfactory to me to observe at

Address on behalf of the Nizam and people of Hyderabad.

that time signs of ability and of an earnest desire for the promotion of the public welfare on the part of His Highness, which gave hopes that he will have, as I trust through God's providence, a long, successful, and honorable career.

I shall always feel a very deep and special interest in all that concerns the welfare of His Highness, and the prosperity of his State. It is natural that I should do so, having taken a leading part on an occasion of so much importance in His Highness' life, and in the history of his dominions, and I shall follow the course of his administration, as long as my own life is prolonged, with a most earnest trust that the course which he may pursue will tend to promote the highest welfare of the people whom God has entrusted to his care.

I can assure you, gentlemen, that the support which I promised last February to His Highness and his Government on the part of the Government of India, acting under the authority of the Queen-Empress, will never be wanting. I am perfectly certain that the language which I then employed upon that subject will be adopted by the distinguished statesman to whom in a few days I am about to hand over the Government of this country, and that he, like myself, will earnestly desire to afford the cordial support of the British Government to the Nizam as to all other Native Princes. I am firmly convinced that it is most important that the Native States of India should be prosperous and well administered, and I believe that the existence of such States is no less advantageous to the British Government than it is to the people of the States themselves. It cannot, however, be doubted that a great responsibility rests upon the British Government in regard to those Native States.

It is one of the great claims of England upon the confidence and the gratitude of the people of India, that, by her power, peace and tranquillity have been established

Address on behalf of the Nizam and people of Hyderabad.

throughout the length and breadth of the land—a peace and tranquillity which are enjoyed not only by Her Majesty's own immediate subjects, but also by the subjects of Native Princes. But I have always felt, and feel very strongly, that the fact that good order is maintained in these States very much by the power of the British Government, imposes upon that Government a great and most responsible duty in respect to the administration of those States. It is no part of the policy of the British Government to interfere unduly in the administration of Native Princes; on the contrary, I am happy to think that now for many years it has been an established principle of that policy that we should abstain to the utmost of our power from any undue or unnecessary interference, but at the same time we cannot forget that we have a responsibility of our own for their government of Native States, and that we are bound to use our efforts and the power which we possess to guide the policy of Native Princes in the direction of a just, reasonable, and sound administration. To me it is a great satisfaction to hope that the difficulties which in many cases beset the Government of India in these matters will be diminished in regard to Hyderabad by the excellent intentions and the abilities of its present Ruler. His Highness doubtless is young, but, as you say in your address, “a fine spring heralds a good year,” and I earnestly trust that the promise which he has already given, and with which his personal government has opened, will be fulfilled to the last.

Gentlemen, you have spoken in your address of the selection of a Dewan upon the accession of His Highness to the direct administration of his State. You are well aware that the choice of a Minister rests with the Nizam himself. It is no part of the duty of the British Government to interfere in that matter, except by advice. I advised His Highness in this case, and it was a great satisfaction to me to be able to give my approval to the choice which

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HIS Highness made, because I had full confidence that the Nawab Salar Jung would prove himself a worthy son of his distinguished father, and that while now the worst that can be said of him is that he is young,—a fault which will diminish with every year of his life,—he has before him, in the late Regent and Minister, an example which if he will only lay it to heart and follow it in the course of what I trust will be a long and prosperous administration, will render that administration highly beneficial both to His Highness and to the inhabitants of his dominions.

Gentlemen, you are kind enough to allude at the end of your address to Lady Ripon's presence at Hyderabad last February. It was a great pleasure to her to be able to visit that interesting city at a time so important in the history of the State, and I am sure that when I communicate to her the kind language which you use in your address she will be very grateful to you.

It now only remains for me to thank you for your address and for the beautiful casket with which it is accompanied, and to assure you that I shall watch in England with the deepest interest the progress of the administration of His Highness' dominions, and that I shall always regard him and his ministers with hearty friendship, and shall ever entertain an earnest desire that his rule may be prosperous and his people happy.

[The deputation, after being individually introduced to the Viceroy by Mr. Primrose, then withdrew.]

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ADDRESSES FROM THE BARRACKPORE SCHOOLS.

[On Saturday afternoon, the 6th December, the Viceroy received the schools of Barrackpore and its neighbourhood in the grounds of Government House, Barrackpore. The schools represented were the Barrackpore School, the Sridhar Bansidhar School, Nawabgunge, the Maniarampore School, and one or two other smaller schools. About 350 boys were on the ground, and several native gentlemen also attended, amongst them Baboos Sridhar Mandal and Bansidhar Mandal, the Presidents and Founders of the Nawabgunge School. In reply to addresses, expressive of regret at the Viceroy's approaching departure, read on behalf of the Barrackpore School, the Nawabgunge School, and on the part of the boys of that school, His Excellency spoke as follows:—]

6th Dec 1884.

Gentlemen, and you my young friends, I am very glad indeed to meet you once more in this Park, and I thank you very sincerely for the addresses which you have presented to me. As you are well aware, I have, ever since I have been in this country, taken a great interest in the subject of education in Barrackpore and its neighbourhood, and I have done what I could to promote that important object each year that I have visited this place. When the new school was established at Nawabgunge, there was some fear on the part of those specially interested in the Barrackpore school lest its existence might interfere with their prosperity, but, nevertheless, believing, as I did, that in a large population, such as that which exists in this district, there was ample room for two schools, and in spite of the strong interest which I took in the Barrackpore school, I thought it my duty to give all the assistance in my power to the Nawabgunge school, which has been established and supported by the signal munificence of the two gentlemen whom I see present, Babu Sridhur Mandal and Babu Bansidhar Mandal. It is particularly gratifying to me under these circumstances to see these two schools gathered together here on this occa-

Addresses from the Barrackpore Schools.

sion, and to have such a remarkable proof of the fact that you are working harmoniously together, and that the only real rivalry existing between you is the rivalry as to which of you will do the most for the interests of the children under your care. I was led too to feel a particularly deep interest in the school at Nawabgunge, because it furnished a notable example of what might be done by private effort in the matter of education. It has been one of my endeavours during the period of my Viceroyalty to encourage self-help among the people of this country to the utmost of my power in various directions. (*Applause*). I believe there are few directions in which that great principle can be applied with greater advantage than with respect to public education, and it was therefore particularly pleasant to me to be able to give my countenance to a school established by private enterprise for the primary and also for the higher education of a rural district like this. That that school has succeeded so well affords me great gratification, a gratification which is enhanced by the belief that its success has not interfered with the progress of the Barrackpore school, and that there is plenty of good work to be done by both of them.

I can assure you that I shall always feel a great interest in the welfare and prosperity of the people of Barrackpore and its neighbourhood. I have spent here some of the pleasantest hours that I have spent in India, and I shall carry away with me the most agreeable recollections of this beautiful Park, and, in bidding you farewell, I most earnestly trust that it will please God to bless you with every prosperity. (*Applause*.)

There is one matter which I omitted to mention. I said last year that I would at the usual time give the same prize next year to the Barrackpore school as I had given in previous years. It is quite true that I shall not be here next February or March, but I have not the smallest intention of availing myself of that circumstance to get out of

Address from the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta.

my promise, and I shall be very happy to give the prize all the same. (*Applause.*)

[Babus Sridhar Mandal and Bansidhar Mandal were then personally presented to His Excellency, and the assembly shortly afterwards dispersed.]

ADDRESS FROM THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF
CALCUTTA.

[A Deputation, consisting of the majority of the members—some 8th Dec. 1884
fifty in number—of the Calcutta Municipal Corporation, waited upon the Viceroy at Government House at 3-30 P. M. on the 8th December to present His Lordship with a farewell address on the eve of his departure from India. Mr. Harrison, Chairman of the Corporation, read the address, from which the following is an extract :—

“ It is now nearly four years since we and our predecessors in office were permitted to present an address to Your Excellency, congratulating you on your recovery from a dangerous illness. In the reply which you vouchsafed to the deputation which then waited upon you, Your Excellency was pleased to say that you valued the expression of confidence in yourself very much as coming from such a body as the Corporation of Calcutta; and although throughout Your Viceroyalty you would feel bound to follow the dictates of duty without regard to any desire to obtain the favour of this or that class of the community, yet you could truly say that you would regard it as a fortunate circumstance, if, when your administration closed, the Corporation were able to inform you that you still possessed their confidence.

The event then foreshadowed by Your Excellency has now arrived, and it needs no words of ours to assure you of that to which every stage of your progress to Calcutta has borne witness, that your administration has won for Your Excellency in an exceptional manner the confidence of all those who are interested in those local institutions which it has been your wise and far-sighted policy to extend and foster. Your Excellency from the outset commanded our respect and allegiance as the representative of our Gracious Sovereign whose name is breathed with as much loyalty by Her Indian subjects as by those who acknowledge Her sway in any portion of Her Majesty's

Address from the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta.

widespread dominions, but to this respect and allegiance were ere long superadded the sentiments of love and affection on account of the kindly interest which you have at all times evinced in the welfare of the teeming millions who inhabit this vast country.

True it is, as was recently observed by your renowned successor, that very conflicting estimates must inevitably be formed of the success with which the Governor-General of the day is conducting the arduous administration over which he presides. But, if we may so predict, it will be found, when the rivulets and streamlets of public opinion converge into the great stream of history, that all classes and sections will have combined to acknowledge the integrity, the purity of motive, the noble sense of justice, and the lofty moral tone which have been the pre-eminent characteristics of Your Excellency's Viceroyalty, and your name will henceforth live in the hearts of India and its people linked with those of Bentinck and Canning."

The Viceroy replied in the following terms:—]

Mr. Harrison and Gentlemen,—I return you my sincere thanks for the address which you have presented to me, and for the expressions of esteem and confidence which it contains, and which I assure you I highly value. You remind me that when, nearly four years ago, I received in this hall an address from this Corporation, I gave expression to the interest which I felt in the progress of Municipal institutions in India, and specially of those which, like the Calcutta Corporation, were possessed of a representative character. During the four years that have elapsed since that period, it has, as you say in your address, been the object of the policy of the Government of India to foster and extend those institutions, and I greatly rejoice at the progress which has been made in that respect throughout the country. I think, gentlemen, that I may congratulate you upon the results that have been obtained within the last few days in the Municipal elections which have been held in various parts of Bengal. I understand, both from the Lieutenant-Governor, who feels a great interest in the matter, and also from various sources indicative of public opinion, that those elections have been, generally speaking, successful and satisfactory.

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You assure me in your address that your administration of the affairs of this city has "already borne abundant fruit in the greater interest that is everywhere manifested in the well-being of the town, and, above all, in the greater patience with which public burdens are submitted to, now that those who have to pay are in a position to satisfy themselves of the necessity for the expenditure." This, gentlemen, is as it should be, and I trust that the wide introduction of the representative system, which is now taking place throughout Bengal, will produce similar fruits in other parts of this great province. The Government have been extremely careful, in their recent measures for the development of Local Self-Government, to avoid casting, either by legislative or executive action, any additional burdens on the people, except in so far as the Municipalities themselves may hereafter be ready to undertake such expenditure on behalf of those whom they represent. I have been given to understand that when the late Lord Mayo took what may be called the first substantial steps towards the institution of Local Government in India, and in the years which immediately followed his untimely death, fears were entertained in many quarters that the real aim of his measures was the shifting and the increase of the burden of taxation. No idea could have been more unfounded in respect to that distinguished man, for we all now know that he felt a deep and real interest in the progress of Municipal institutions, and that, with the eye of a far-seeing statesman, he saw the advantage of fostering and upholding them. But, warned by what we understood had taken place on that occasion, we have been particularly careful to avoid, in the measures which we have recently taken, any possibility of misconception of that kind. Nevertheless, gentlemen, I have no doubt that, as the public spirit which I trust will be elicited by the adoption of the new system advances and obtains greater force, men will realise more fully the inestimable advan-

Address from the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta.

tages of education, of sanitation, and of improved communications, and will be willing to contribute more largely towards objects of which they will in their own localities reap the full benefit, and that, as you say in your address, they will see for themselves the necessity of the expenditure on these objects, they will be able to watch how the money is spent, and they will therefore be more ready to contribute.

It is for you, gentlemen of the Calcutta Corporation, to take the lead in this matter, and to set a bright example to the rest of the Province of Bengal, and I, for my part, confidently anticipate for you a long and honourable career of public usefulness.

In the elaboration of the various measures which have been taken during the four years for the object to which I have been alluding, I have received valuable assistance from my colleagues in the Executive Government, from Lieutenant-Governors of Provinces, and from many officers serving under them; and I desire here to allude to the hearty interest which has been felt in this important question by my hon'ble friend, Mr. Gibbs, who has been throughout the whole period in charge of the Home Department, and by the able Secretary of that Department, Mr. Mackenzie, who has fully realised the hopes which I formed when I called him from the Bengal Secretariat to that of the Government of India.

I receive with the greatest satisfaction the renewed assurances of your loyalty towards our gracious Sovereign. She deserves all the love and attachment which you can feel for her, and she has just given you a fresh proof of her deep interest in your welfare by selecting for your new Viceroy a statesman so distinguished and so worthy of your confidence as Lord Dufferin, who is probably at this moment landing on the shores of India.

Gentlemen, you have been pleased to connect my name in your address with those of Lord William Bentinck and

Address from the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta.

Lord Canning. I can lay no claim to be compared with those eminent men, except in so far as I have undoubtedly endeavoured to follow in their footsteps. It is now some six-and-twenty years ago since, in the House of Commons, I, with other friends of Lord Canning, stood up to defend him from attack, and I remember that on that occasion I said—"We are here to defend 'Clemency Canning,' and we accept that name which was given in derision as his highest title to honour." (*Applause.*) The sentiments which I then expressed in the Parliament of England I have entertained ever since, and I adhere to them now unchanged and undiminished, at the close of my Indian administration; and if men are hereafter found to couple my name in any degree with the honoured names of Canning and of Bentinck, I shall indeed esteem it to be one of the highest honours of my public life.

Gentlemen, I heartily thank you for your address, and I earnestly pray that every prosperity may attend the Corporation of Calcutta and the inhabitants of this great city whom you represent.

[The deputation then withdrew.]

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ADDRESS FROM THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

9th Dec. 1884. [On Tuesday, the 9th December, a Deputation consisting of about fifty members of the British Indian Association waited on the Viceroy at Government House at 2-30 P M, with a farewell address. His Excellency received the deputation in the throne-room. Maharaja Narendra Krishna, the President of the Association, read the address; before doing so he made some introductory remarks in which he alluded to the Bengal Tenancy Bill. In the course of the address, which expressed the grateful appreciation of the Association for the various measures of His Excellency's administration, allusion was also made to the same subject in the following terms :—

“It has been our misfortune to differ in opinion from Your Excellency's Government with regard to certain measures initiated during Your Lordship's administration, vitally affecting the well-being of the people, and their legal status in their native land. We deplore also the circumstances which have compelled us to make repeated representations to the Supreme Government of the injuries which threaten us in the Bill relating to property in land and the adjustment of relations between landlord and tenant in these provinces. We have made them in the confidence of obtaining that justice which the British Government has taught us to expect from the benign rule of our august Sovereign. The subject is still under the consideration of Your Excellency's Government. Bearing in mind the high consideration which Your Excellency has generously shown us by permitting us to nominate a representative from our body to serve as a Member of Your Excellency's Legislative Council, we fondly cherish the hope that our humble prayer will not have been made in vain.”

His Excellency the Viceroy replied as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I am greatly obliged to you for the address which you have just presented to me, and for attending here in such numbers to-day. I can assure you that I am strongly convinced of the value of Associations such as yours, especially in a country like India, where representative institutions do not exist, for it seems to me that where these institutions are not available, it is of especial value to Government that by the criticisms of the Press on the one hand, and of public Associations like yours upon the other, they should have the means of ascertaining the

Address from the British Indian Association.

views of the public upon the various questions and measures, administrative or judicial, which they may bring forward, and of learning the sentiments of different classes of the community and the views of its various sections. I, gentlemen, for my own part, can truly say that I have always, since I have held the office of Viceroy, given great attention to the opinions expressed by the British Indian Association upon public questions. It is not to be expected that Government should always agree with the views of any particular Association, neither is it to be anticipated, nor, in my opinion, to be desired, that any such important Association as yours should always be found to express approval of the measures of the Government because the natural conclusion from that would be that you were merely desirous of giving your voice in favour of the Administration, instead of exercising, as you ought in the public interests to exercise, a discriminating criticism. Therefore, gentlemen, I have always rejoiced to find you inclined to give, in a moderate and reasonable manner, your unfettered opinion upon the public measures of the Administration of which I have been the head. And I can assure you that I fully understand that by coming here to-day, and by the other marks of sympathy with the general lines of the policy of my Administration which you have shown by your address, or which individual members of your body may display, you do not in the smallest degree imply that you waive any of the objections which you have felt and expressed either to the Bengal Tenancy Bill, which you mention in your address, and which my hon'ble friend the Maharaja has alluded to in his observations, or to any other portion of the measures of the Government from which you may at any time have dissented. I quite understand and appreciate that; and this would not be in any respect a suitable occasion for me to express any opinion upon the many complicated and difficult questions connected with the land-tenure of

Address from the British Indian Association.

Bengal. That subject must now be remitted to the hands of my successor, who, I am confident, will deal with it in a just and enlightened spirit.

I may, however, perhaps, be permitted to say that, in regard to the Bill of which you have spoken, I at all events may claim to have shown an earnest desire to afford to all those who are interested in that measure ample opportunity for considering the proposals which have been made, and that I have displayed no inclination whatever to hurry the Bill through the Legislative Council. And further, as you remark in your address, I took what seemed to me to be the best course to secure that the interests of the land-owners of Bengal should be ably and adequately represented in the Legislative Council, and in consultation with you, as representing their interests, I, in the first place, appointed my lamented friend, the late Mr. Kristodas Pal, to a seat in that Council; and when he was taken from us, I, adopting the same course, gladly accepted the proposal that I should select to succeed him a gentleman so well qualified in every respect to represent your interests upon the Council, by his large experience of agricultural affairs, and his intimate knowledge of the land laws, as Babu Peary Mohun Mukharji. And, gentlemen, desiring that the somewhat separate interests of Behar should be duly represented in the Legislative Council, I invited my hon'ble friend the Maharaja of Durbhanga to take a seat there and to represent those interests which, by his large territorial possessions and by his general position, he is so well qualified to do. But if my hon'ble friend the Maharaja will pardon me, I must say that that was not the only reason which induced me to desire to see him a Member of the Legislative Council. I was, I confess, very anxious to have an opportunity of inducing him, at the commencement of his manhood, to come forward and take that part in public affairs to which his wealth, position, and talents so fully entitle him; and it was a great satisfaction to me—

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and it always will be very gratifying to me—to see him and other men in his position taking an active part in the government of the country.

It gives me very great pleasure to find that you are able to speak, in terms so flattering that I scarcely like to allude to them, of the sympathy which I feel for your countrymen, and of the efforts which I have made to ameliorate their condition. It is to me a great satisfaction to believe that during the four and a half years in which I have held the high office of Viceroy for India, I have been enabled, with the advice and assistance of my colleagues, to carry out not a few solid and substantial reforms—political, administrative, economical, and fiscal—calculated, as I hope, to improve and elevate the condition of the people of this country.

I have mentioned the name of the late Rai Bahadur Kristodas Pal, and I must avail myself of this opportunity to express my deep regret, which I am sure is shared by everyone here present, at the untimely death of that remarkable man, who, by his talents, by his eloquence, and by his public spirit, had earned for himself a high place in the respect and esteem of men of all classes and opinions, and before whom we had hoped that there lay many a long year of public usefulness and increasing honour. But it pleased God to ordain otherwise, and I can therefore only, upon this occasion, join with you in lamenting the loss of one whose assistance the Government so highly valued, and to whom his countrymen owed so much. And as I have alluded to the loss which India has sustained by the death of one of her own sons, I may perhaps be permitted to remind you that she has recently been deprived of another true and earnest friend by the death of Mr. Henry Fawcett. I know, gentlemen, that you highly appreciate the services which he rendered to your countrymen, and the honest and fearless spirit in which he laboured for their good. In him England has lost a

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statesman of sterling qualities, and India an enlightened advocate of her best interests.

Once more I thank you, and I trust that your Association may long continue to flourish and to discuss public questions with its accustomed ability and earnestness, and thereby materially to promote the formation of public opinion, and to afford valuable assistance to the Government of this country.

[The deputation then withdrew.]

OPENING OF THE CITY COLLEGE, CALCUTTA.

10th Dec 1884. [On Wednesday afternoon, the Viceroy formally opened the new building of the City College, in Mirzapore Street, Calcutta. There was a large gathering of native noblemen, gentlemen, and a few native ladies; and the building and the approaches to it were profusely decorated with evergreens and flags. The Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Rivers Thompson, was also present. Lord Ripon, accompanied by Mr. Primrose, Captains Rochfort and Gordon, Aides-de-Camp, arrived at 4 o'clock, and was received with enthusiastic demonstrations of welcome by a large crowd assembled in the street and the grounds of the College. On entering the hall, and taking his seat, His Excellency was loudly cheered by the assembly. After the singing of a song of welcome by a choir of Hindu boys, the President of the College Committee, Mr. Ananda Bose, made a brief speech, in which he gave an account of the history and progress of the Institution and of the special studies which had been introduced. One of the senior students then read a farewell address, in which reference was made to the great interest which the Viceroy had always evinced in the subject of education. His Excellency who on rising to address the assembly, was received with loud cheers, spoke as follows :—]

Mr Rivers Thompson, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It affords me, I assure you, great pleasure to be able to be present upon this interesting occasion, and to take part in the opening of these new buildings for the valuable work to which they are about to be devoted. Before I left Calcutta last spring, your President, Mr. Ananda Bose, asked me

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whether I thought, after I returned to this city, I could undertake the duty of opening these rooms, and I then told him that I would gladly do so if it were in my power. I confess that I did not then think I should have to perform this work at a time so busy as that at which I am now called upon to discharge it; but in the midst of the many occupations which naturally beset me at the close of my administration, I have felt it a duty, as it certainly is a pleasure, to make an effort to fulfil the undertaking into which I entered with your President some months ago. And I can assure you that I have derived great gratification from the hearty welcome which you have given me to-day, from listening to the remarks which have been made as to the purposes and objects of this institution, and from receiving the cordial and friendly address which has been presented to me by the students. As you remark in your address, I have been desirous throughout my administration to encourage and invite the co-operation of private agencies in the work of public education, because, as I have had occasion to say more than once, while I am convinced that such co-operation of public and private agencies in this great and important work is of the utmost value in all countries, I am sure that it is a necessity in India, where the means at the disposal of the Government are so limited, and where consequently they have no alternative but to have recourse to private munificence; and to that private munificence we have not appealed in vain; I see here to-day not a few distinguished men who have done good work in that direction, and I heartily congratulate you, gentlemen, who are connected with the management of this institution, upon the share which you have had in that noble work. Your President has described to us the progress which this institution has made, and very remarkable progress it seems to me to have been. Founded not much more than five years ago, it has grown, as he told us, from a First Class English School into a First Grade

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College, teaching the full Arts course ; and surely, here we find ample proof, if proof were wanted, of what may be accomplished by private effort in the matter of education. (*Cheers.*) And while I heartily wish every possible success to the City College, I hope that throughout India other men will be found to imitate the work which is here so successfully being done by these who conduct this institution. (*Hear, hear.*) The President has, in his remarks, alluded to some of the distinguishing features of this College, and there is one of them especially upon which I am desirous of saying a few words to-day. Mr. Ananda Bose has reminded us that in this College an effort, and a successful one, has been made to combine moral with intellectual training. I have had occasion to say more than once since I came to this country how deep is my conviction that that union of moral and intellectual training is essential to complete education. (*Cheers.*) I attach to that union the very greatest importance. I rejoice at the effort which is here being made to perfect and carry out this attempt, and I trust that it will be followed in many other directions by other institutions. (*Applause.*) Gentlemen, the Government of India had recently to consider a question connected with this very subject. As many of you are aware, a wish was expressed in the report of the Education Commission, of which my friend, Mr. Bose, was a distinguished and valuable member, that the Government should take steps for the purpose of issuing for use in colleges a work of the nature of a moral text book. I hope that it is needless for me to say that if we found ourselves unable to give effect to the proposal, it was not from any indifference on the part of any member of the Government to the importance of moral education for the people of this country, but the Government of India stands in circumstances very special in regard to this matter. We are bound not even to raise the faintest suspicion that, under the cover of any measure which we

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may take, we are desirous of showing favour to any particular creed in this country. However strong may be our individual religious convictions, as a Government we are constitutionally bound to preserve perfect neutrality in that respect (*cheers*), and we felt that we should only run the risk of injuring a great object, which might be pursued by other means, if, by interfering in the matter ourselves, and as it might be, outrunning public opinion upon the subject, we were to give rise to any misconception or misrepresentation as to the intentions of the Government. Therefore we did not find ourselves able to act on that recommendation of the Commission. But, gentlemen, what, in the peculiar circumstances of India, the Government could not do, can be done by private agencies. Where we are bound to proceed with the utmost caution, you can come forward freely and advance with boldness, and you may in this respect not merely do a great work yourselves, but you may show the way to the Government hereafter, because, by the success of your efforts, you may prove what can be done in this respect with the general consent of public opinion. (*Cheers*.) I was very glad to learn that among the other special features of this College is the establishment of a carpentry class; because, small though the beginning is, we may find there, as Mr. Bose has suggested, a forward step in the direction of technical education. I wish that it had been in my power, and that I had had time and opportunity, while I was connected with the administration of this country, to take some steps in that most important direction. I rejoice to see that it has already been brought under the notice of my noble friend Lord Dufferin, and that he has spoken of his interest in it in a manner such as we should expect from one of his well-known sentiments and feelings. (*Applause*) I trust that it will be one of the questions which will engage his early attention, and I am confident that it is one which, if he can solve it, will confer great benefits upon the country.

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(*Cheers.*) And, gentlemen, I look also with gratification upon the existence of such a class in this College, because it seems to me to bear witness to the true dignity of labour,—a lesson which, I believe, it is of the greatest importance to impress upon public opinion in this country. But while you dealt with great subjects like intellectual, moral, and technical education, you have not overlooked minor matters, and you have, I am glad to see, considered the development of the body as well as the development of the mind, and have also had lectures upon most important questions connected with the preservation of health and on sanitary subjects.

Gentlemen,—I can only repeat the pleasure with which I have taken part in these proceedings to-day; and in declaring these new buildings to be open for the use of the City College, I can assure you that I shall watch with sincere interest the progress of this institution even from my Western home (*loud cheers*); and I trust that these halls may for many long years to come be filled with an ever-growing number of students eager to avail themselves to the utmost of the full benefits which this institution offers to them, and determined to use the instruction which they will here receive to the honour of that God who embraces in his wide-reaching love men of all races and of all climes (*cheers*), and who has entrusted rich gifts of intellect and of character to his children that they may employ them in his service, and for the good of their fellow-men. (*Loud cheers.*) Mr. Rivers Thompson and gentlemen, I now declare this building to be open for purposes of instruction. (*Cheers.*)

[The proceedings then terminated.]

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ADDRESS FROM THE NATIVE PRESS OF BENGAL.

[On Thursday afternoon, the 11th December, at half past three o'clock, the Viceroy received a Deputation, consisting of about twenty-five gentlemen representing the Native Press of Bengal. The address, the more important points of which will be apparent from the Viceroy's reply, was read by Baboo Norendro Nath Sen, Editor of the *Indian Mirror*. His Excellency replied to it as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I return you my best thanks for your address, which, as was natural, is mainly occupied with the discussion of the subject of the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act. I need not remind you that, when I came out to this country, I did not act hastily in regard to that question. Indeed, I believe that there were not a few persons—probably most of those who are now present amongst them—who did not think that I proceeded much too slowly in getting rid of that Act from the Statute Book. But, gentlemen, just because legislation of that kind was naturally distasteful to one who has held throughout his political life the opinions which I have always entertained, I felt it my duty, before proceeding to reverse the legislation of my predecessor, very carefully to examine the grounds upon which that legislation had been enacted, and to consider the actual circumstances of the country. I did so deliberately and carefully, and I came in the end to the conclusion that the Vernacular Press Act ought to be repealed, and I then proceeded, with the full concurrence and support of my colleagues, to take the necessary measures for its repeal, and, gentlemen, I shall always rejoice that I did repeal it.

The Press, in all its branches and in all countries, writes occasionally—you must forgive me for saying so—foolishly and unjustly. It writes not unfrequently upon imperfect information, and sometimes even, I fear, from unworthy motives. Whenever, since I have been in India, writing

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of that description has come under my notice, it has given me much pain and regret, because I have felt how deeply injurious it is to a noble cause; but, gentlemen, faults of that description do not appear to me to afford a justification for re-enacting the restrictions which were removed in 1882. The ordinary law of the country is there to deal with any ordinary offences which the Press may commit, and if, which God forbid, a time of trouble should arise, and the public peace should be endangered, the Government of India which might exist under such unhappy circumstances, would know well enough how to deal with them. I, therefore, continue to hold the opinion which I held in 1882, and to believe that the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act was a wise and just measure. Gentlemen, you have quoted in your address the admirable language which was used on this subject by that eminent man, Sir Charles Metcalfe. I need not tell you how cordially I agree in the noble words to which you have referred, for I have myself a high opinion of the position and of the duties of the Press; but the higher that position is, and the more important the duties, the greater is the responsibility imposed upon those who hold the one, and who discharge the other. The first aim of Press criticism should not be to be smart or brilliant, or incisive, but to be just. I agree with you when you say in your address that it is your function to criticise—and I hold that it is your duty honestly and fearlessly to criticise the march of public affairs, and the conduct of public men. But you appear to me—if you will pardon me for saying so—to lower your true position when you seem to imply that the criticism which you are to exercise is to be mainly a criticism of censure. You are entitled, and you are bound to censure what is blameworthy, but you are, in my judgment, no less bound to accord your praise where praise is due. Indiscriminate censure fails to attain its own object, because it comes in the end to be treated with indifference by those against whom

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it is directed ; but just criticism is always weighty. Gentlemen, it seems to me that the duties of the Press in India are not altogether the same as those of the Press in England, just as the circumstances of this country differ in many respects from those which exist in Great Britain. In England, where party Government with all its advantages and all its drawbacks exists, it is the special function of the journals of the Opposition to criticise the conduct of the Government, and to pick every hole that they possibly can in their proceedings—a function which they discharge with great zeal, if not always with great justice. But the Government have there the newspapers of their own party to turn to, and have, therefore, ample means of securing that their policy shall be rightly represented to the public, and that their measures shall be defended in the Press. In India, however, the Government is not in so favourable a position in this respect as in England. We have not in this country those means, to which I have adverted, of placing our policy in its true light before the public, and therefore it seems to me that we have a right to ask of the Press that they should exercise a more cautious, moderate, and discriminating judgment in dealing with the measures which come under their observation than might be necessary under other circumstances. Gentlemen, I am at all events free to say this, because in a couple of days more I shall have ceased to be connected with the Government of India, and because, personally, I have very much to thank you for ; and I am but using in these remarks the freedom of an earnest friend of the Press, to impress upon you the great duty which has been imposed upon you by the liberty which has been restored to you, to deal with public, and, above all, with personal questions in that just and moderate spirit which will always give force to your criticisms, and which will command the respect of your opponents.

Gentlemen,—It is a great gratification to me that my

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name should, upon this occasion, have been associated by Indian journalists with that of Sir Charles Metcalfe. I thank you for this mark of your approval, and I earnestly trust that you will use the freedom which has been so happily restored to you with an ever-growing sense of the responsibility which that freedom imposes, and, therefore, with an ever-increasing advantage to your countrymen and to the Government. (*Applause*)

[The Deputation then withdrew.]

DEPUTATIONS FROM VARIOUS PUBLIC BODIES.

Dec. 12, 1884.

[On Friday afternoon at 3-30 the Viceroy received Deputations from the eight Associations and public bodies named below. As time was limited, it was not possible for His Excellency to reply separately to each address. The addresses were therefore read out first, in the following order :—

Mahommedan Literary Society.

Central Mahommedan National Association.

Representatives of the Vernacular Press.

Deputation from Bhagulpur.

” ” Burdwan.

” ” Bally.

” ” Hooghly.

” ” Serampur.

” ” Naihati.

When all the addresses had been read, the Viceroy rose and replied to them collectively in the following terms :—]

Gentlemen,—I tender you my best thanks for the addresses which you have presented to me, and regret that the limited time at my disposal on this the last day of my Indian administration will only permit me to touch briefly upon some of the topics to which you refer in them. You, gentlemen of the Mahommedan Literary Society, have reminded me that, in replying to the address which you

Deputations from various Public Bodies.

presented to me in 1881, I assured you that it was my firm determination to conduct my administration of this country in strict accordance with the principles contained in the Proclamation of Her Majesty our Queen-Empress. To that assurance I have ever since firmly adhered, and I rejoice to find that you, in your address to-day, acknowledge so fully that I have fulfilled the pledge which I then gave to you. I can assure you, gentlemen both of the Mahomedan Literary Society and of the National Mahomedan Association, that I feel a deep interest in the question of Mahomedan education. I am well aware of the special circumstances connected with that matter, and of the difficulties which you have to encounter in respect to it. As you know, I have not been able to deal finally with it in the course of my administration. I need not to-day explain my views upon the subject, because only a short time ago I entered upon them somewhat fully in the remarks which I made at the College at Aligarh; but I may observe that it has given me great pleasure to notice that my noble friend Lord Dufferin, in a speech which he made a day or two ago at Bombay, alluded to this subject, and gave the strongest proof of the sympathetic interest which he feels in all that concerns the promotion of Mahomedan education in India. As regards education generally, I need not tell you that I have felt in India, as I have felt during all my public life in England, the deepest interest in that great question, which is, in my judgment, one of the most important which can engage the attention of the British Government in this country. I was very glad to observe that allusion is made in one of these addresses to the fears which I know were at one time entertained in some quarters that the strong desire of the Government to promote primary education might induce them to take steps which would tend to the detriment of higher education in this country. I can assure you that those fears had

Deputations from various Public Bodies.

never any foundation, and I am very glad to learn from you that in your opinion they have been entirely removed. I can truly say, for my own part, that the longer I have remained in India the more convinced have I become that it is of the utmost importance that higher education in this country should be maintained in the fullest efficiency, and that it should be extended over the widest possible area. And I believe that the measures which have been taken by the British Government in this country for the establishment and advancement of that education constitute one of the noblest gifts which have been given by England to India.

To you, gentlemen, who represent upon this occasion the Vernacular Press of this country, I need only address a few words, because in the quotation which you have made in your address from a letter of mine, written after the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act in 1882, you will find a short, but I think a sufficient, statement of my views upon that subject.

In my judgment a shackled Press is a useless institution, while I am convinced that a free Press, conducted upon just principles, is calculated to confer the most important benefits, educational and political, upon the country in which it exists (*applause*), and therefore I greatly rejoice that it should have fallen to my lot to take a part in removing the fetters which were upon you when I came to this country.

I have received, I can assure you, gentlemen, with very great pleasure the friendly addresses which have been presented to me from various towns in the mofussil in Bengal. Naturally enough, those addresses have dwelt very much upon the subject of Local Self-Government, and I am happy to be able to congratulate you upon this occasion upon the success which, speaking generally, has attended the recent Municipal elections in this Province. (*Applause.*)

Deputations from various Public Bodies.

That success affords a gratifying proof that the advance which has been made by the present Government of India in the development of Local Self-Government has been timely and judicious; that it has met the requirements of the country, and has not outrun the progress of the people; and I can assure you that I shall ever watch throughout my life with the deepest interest the future history of Municipal institutions in India. (*Applause.*)

I listened with great interest to the detailed statements which were made in the address presented to me from Bally in regard to the progress of Municipal institutions in that district, and I was very glad to see how there, with the cordial support of the Lieutenant-Governor and the local officers, you have been doing valuable work under the influence of an earnest and energetic application of the great principle of self-help. What has been done there can be done elsewhere, and I earnestly hope that the example set in Bally and in other towns in this Province will ere long be generally imitated throughout the length and breadth of Bengal. (*Applause.*)

Gentlemen,—I have during the last few weeks had so many opportunities of expressing my opinions upon the topics which have been touched upon in your various addresses that I will not further enlarge upon them now; but will content myself with once more giving expression to the grateful feelings which your friendly language has excited in my mind, and with begging you to remember that if in the course of my Indian administration I have been able, with the assistance of my colleagues, to do any good for India, I have only been carrying into effect the earnest desire of that gracious Sovereign who has so deeply at heart the welfare and happiness of Her Indian subjects. (*Applause.*)

[The Deputations then withdrew.]

ENTERTAINMENT TO THE VICEROY AND LADY RIPON
AT BELGATCHIA VILLA.

12th Dec 1884.

[On the evening of Friday, the 12th December, an entertainment was given to Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Ripon by the native community at Belgatchia Villa, the residence of Kumar Indra Chunder Singh of Paikpara, and the occasion was taken to present to Lord Ripon the farewell address which had been adopted at a monster meeting held at the Town Hall, Calcutta, on the previous day.

Their Excellencies arrived at Belgatchia Villa about 9-30 P.M., the whole route from Government House to Belgatchia, a distance of over four miles, being brilliantly illuminated and decorated with flags, banners and triumphal arches, and densely thronged with people, who cheered loudly as Their Excellencies passed. The Viceroy on his arrival was received by the members of the Deputation (headed by Mr. Justice Romesh Chunder Mitter) charged with the delivery of the address, and, amid the enthusiastic cheers of the assembly, was conducted to a dais erected within an enormous pavilion richly decorated with evergreens and bunting, and brilliantly lighted with chandeliers. Their Excellencies took their seats on the dais, and there were also seated with them Mr. Rivers Thompson (the Lieutenant-Governor), Sir Donald Stewart (Commander-in-Chief), Sir Steuart Bayley, Mr. Ilbert and Mr. Hope (Members of Council), and a number of ladies. It was computed that there were about 5,000 Native gentlemen and 700 English ladies and gentlemen assembled in the pavilion. In rising to reply to the address which was read by Dr. Mohendro Lall Sircar, C.I.E, the Viceroy, who was received with loud and prolonged cheering, spoke as follows :—]

Mr. Rivers Thompson, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I can assure you that I am very grateful to you for the address which you have just presented to me. It is very pleasing to receive on this the last day of my Indian administration so unmistakeable a proof of the appreciation in which the acts of that administration are held by so large a portion of the inhabitants of this great city as you represent on this occasion. The grounds upon which your favourable judgment has been pronounced are clearly and succinctly set forth in the address to which we have just listened, and it is a satisfaction to me to

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find that they cover the whole ground of the four and a half years during which I have had the honour to fill the office of Viceroy of India. Gentlemen, the first duty of the Government of India when I arrived in this country, was to endeavour to restore upon honourable terms peace between England and Afghanistan, and to place that peace upon a basis which would afford some security for its continuance, and, aided by the skill of our commanders, by the valour of our soldiers, and especially by the eminent talents of Sir Donald Stewart and Sir Frederick Roberts (*loud cheers*), we succeeded in attaining that object, with the result that, at the present moment, our relations with Afghanistan are of as friendly a nature as I believe they have ever been at any time. With a few minor exceptions, which were speedily disposed of, we have enjoyed, by the blessing of God, unbroken peace from the termination of the Afghan war, and I rejoice to say that the relations of the Supreme Government with the native princes of India were never more satisfactory and cordial than they are at the present time. (*Loud cheers.*) In dealing with native States, I have endeavoured firmly to adhere to the policy which was inaugurated by Lord Canning, and whilst fully recognising the grave responsibilities which attach to the British Government, for the welfare of the inhabitants of every portion of this vast peninsula, I have strictly adhered to the faith of treaties and have respected the just rights of native princes. (*Cheers.*)

Gentlemen,—At this late hour I shall not be able to follow you through all the topics to which you have alluded in your address, but there are some of them upon which I desire to make a few observations. You have mentioned the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act. I have had lately, upon more than one occasion, to make some observations upon that subject, and I shall content myself now with saying that I regard that repeal as one of the foremost measures of my administra-

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tion. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) To have restored to India the great gift of Sir Charles Metcalfe is a reform with which any man may be proud that his name should be connected. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) In the matter of Local Self-Government, you rightly point out that the Government of India in their recent measures have but advanced somewhat farther in the path upon which previous Governments, and especially that of Lord Mayo, had already entered. The principles laid down by that distinguished man, whose untimely death India still mourns, had dropped more and more, as it seems to me, out of sight as time went on. It was our endeavour to bring them forward once more, and to apply them to the circumstances of the present time. Lord Mayo's object, as he himself described it, was to secure the assistance of local interest, supervision, and care in the management of local affairs, to afford opportunities for the development of self-government, and to strengthen municipal institutions. The measures of the present Government of India have been directed to the same end. We have laid to heart the experience which has been gained during the period which has elapsed since the Resolution of 1870 was issued. We have studied the causes which had tended to frustrate the attainment of that which Lord Mayo described as the greater and wider object which he then had in view, and we have striven to obviate and remove those causes of failure. In this object a large measure of success, I may fairly claim, has already been attained. In the Punjab and in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, the Lieutenant-Governors have assured me that the municipal elections have been very satisfactory; and here in Bengal, where you enjoy at the present moment a Municipal Act, which is in some respects more complete than that which is in operation in any other part of India, my honourable friend Mr. Rivers Thompson, who has taken so large an interest in the promotion of this object, assures me that the elections which have

Entertainment to the Viceroy and Lady Ripon at Belgatchia Villa.

lately taken place have been attended with similar results. (*Cheers.*) Certain it is, if I may judge from the accounts which I see in the newspapers, they have excited much interest in most of the towns where they have been held, and from the information which has reached me, I understand that, generally speaking, a good choice of men has been made by the electors. (*Hear, hear.*) I need not tell you, gentlemen, how gratifying it is to me thus to see the seed which the Government sowed only two years ago, already showing signs of such vigorous life. (*Hear, hear.*) As you have rightly indicated in your address, the Government of India has at heart the maintenance and development of Indian art manufactures and industries. I am firmly convinced that there are few questions of greater importance to the material well-being of the great mass of the people, than the opening up of other means of employment than those connected with agriculture, and to relieve the growing pressure of the population upon the land is a matter of the highest economical importance in this country. (*Hear, hear.*) You also allude to the encouragement which I have endeavoured to give to the cultivation of science. It is quite true that I have felt a great interest in the progress of science in this country, and I have given my hearty support to such institutions as the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science—institutions which are doing an excellent work in this matter. (*Loud cheers.*) But it has not been only or indeed mainly because of the valuable assistance which science can give to the material progress of the country that I have taken this course. It has been my special aim to aid in every way in my power the moral and intellectual advancement of the people (*hear, hear*); to afford just satisfaction to their higher aspirations, and to open new paths to the fulfilment of their reasonable ambitions. (*Cheers.*) Such measures are, it seems to me, the necessary complement of that widespread system of education with which England, to

Entertainment to the Viceroy and Lady Ripon at Belgatchia Villa.

her honour, has endowed India. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) To shut our eyes to the results of that education is the highest folly. To utilise those results for the good of the people is the aim of true statesmanship (*hear, hear*), and affords a noble field of labour for Englishmen in this country. (*Hear, hear.*) You are right, gentlemen, when you say that I have desired to encourage the growth of public opinion; to stop that growth happily is, I believe, beyond the power of man (*hear, hear, and cheers*); to guide it into a right direction, and to render it sound and healthy, is one of the most important tasks of the Indian Government of to-day. (*Hear, hear.*)

Gentlemen,—In speaking of the acts of my administration, you must never forget that the Government of India is a composite body, and that in the whole course of my Viceroyalty I have received the most valuable assistance from the colleagues with whom I have been associated. (*Hear, hear.*) As I am going away, and as they are going happily to remain, it is natural that your eyes should at the present moment be fixed mainly upon myself, but I who from the hour of entering upon my office down to the present moment, when I am about to lay that office down, have worked in the most cordial union with the members of my Council, who have consulted with them from day to day and have derived the greatest benefit from their advice—I cannot take to myself any exclusive share of the merits which you have found in our administration. To those who have thus aided me, my hearty thanks are due; for they have been to me, from the beginning to the end, not only most useful coadjutors, but valued friends. (*Hear, hear.*)

And now, gentlemen, before I conclude, I would turn for a moment from the past to the future. The keen controversies which, amidst much misconception and not a little misrepresentation, have sprung up round some of the measures of my administration, and which no man can

Entertainment to the Viceroy and Lady Ripon at Belgatchia Villa.

regret more deeply than I do, will, I trust, soon be laid at rest; and I cherish the hope that when the dust which these controversies have stirred up shall have subsided, and the eyes of men are able to see the facts of the case more clearly than they can do now, even my opponents may not be unwilling to judge my administration more justly than they have sometimes done. (*Loud cheers.*) But, however that may be, I would earnestly beg you, to whatever race or creed or class you may belong, to give now your united confidence to my noble friend and successor, Lord Dufferin (*loud cheers*), and to afford to him, in the arduous task upon which he is about to enter tomorrow, that hearty support and assistance to which he is so eminently entitled. (*Hear, hear, and cheers.*) I look forward with every confidence that under his skilful guidance, the future progress of India, political, intellectual, and moral, will advance with rapid strides. (*Cheers.*) I shall watch that progress with eager eyes and heartfelt sympathy (*loud cheers*); and I can assure you, gentlemen, that as long as I live, I shall grudge no effort which it may be in my power to make (*loud cheers*) to promote your interest, and to advance your welfare. (*Cheers*). Gentlemen, I heartily wish you farewell. (*Loud and prolonged cheers.*)

[Their Excellencies were then conducted to the Palace close by, from one of the verandahs of which they witnessed a brilliant display of fireworks in the grounds below. Subsequently they were entertained with some native music, and left for Government House at 12 o'clock.]

DEPUTATIONS FROM THE BARNAGORE SOCIAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION AND THE WORKING MEN'S CLUB.

13th Dec 1884. [At 11 A.M. on the 13th December the Viceroy received, at Government House, Deputations from the Barnagore Social Improvement Association and the Barnagore Working Men's Club, who presented His Excellency with farewell addresses to which he replied in the following terms:—]

Gentlemen,—I am much obliged to you for the addresses which you have just presented to me. I am very glad to meet the members of a society established for the purpose of social improvement. Associations of that description are of the very greatest value, and they do wherever they exist, if wisely and judiciously conducted, a most important work. I could point out not a few directions in which the work of social improvement in this country might be carried on with the greatest advantage, and I am extremely glad to hear that you have associated yourselves together with the view of promoting that most important object. In your address you have included some words pointing to the subject of female education, and I am glad to seize the opportunity which those expressions afford me of assuring you of the very deep interest which I feel in that branch of education in India. I am quite certain that there is nothing which will tend more to the elevation of the people of this country than the education of women. I know very well the difficulties which attend at present a large development of female education. The Government necessarily must proceed cautiously in the matter, but it is for you who are associated together for the purpose of social improvement to aid the Government by impressing upon your fellow-countrymen the very great importance of that branch of education. (*Applause.*)

I greatly regret that, through an unfortunate mistake,

*Deputations from the Barnagore Social Improvement Association and
the Working Men's Club.*

the deputation from the Working Men's Club at Barnagore is not present on this occasion, although they have been so ably represented by their President, who has read their address. I should have been exceedingly glad to have seen that deputation, for I have all my life and in my own country taken the deepest interest in questions connected with the well-being of the working classes, and I rejoice, indeed, to hear that there is in an important manufacturing district in the neighbourhood of this city a Working Men's Club, such as you have described, already established.

I know few things calculated to do more good in India than a club of that description, and it would have given me very great pleasure to have seen some of its members here to-day and to have assured them of the very great interest which I feel in the working classes of India, as I have always felt in the working classes of England. Gentlemen, I thank you very heartily for your addresses.

[The Deputations then withdrew.]

ADDRESS FROM THE PEOPLE OF JUBBULPORE.

16th Dec 1884. [Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Ripon, accompanied by Mr. H. W. Primrose, The Revd. H. S. Kerr, Dr. Anderson, Captains Rochfort and St. Quintin, left Calcutta by special train at 9 A.M. on Monday, the 15th December, *en route* for England.

At Jubbulpore, which was reached on the 16th December, the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces (Mr. Crosthwaite) met the train on its arrival, with Mr. Neill (Commissioner of Jubbulpore), General Murray, and the officers of his staff. A guard of honour was furnished by the Leicestershire Regiment, and beyond the soldiers was a mass of natives bearing flags and coloured streamers with various mottoes. From one end of the station to the other there was an exceedingly pretty display of flags, and around the dais erected in the centre of the platform, upon which Lord Ripon took his seat, had assembled representatives of the residents of Jubbulpore, all classes having combined to present a farewell address to His Excellency. The address expressed gratitude for the various measures of Lord Ripon's administration and regret at His Excellency's departure. Lord Ripon replied to it in the following terms :—]

Mr. Crosthwaite, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I thank you, gentlemen, for the address which you have presented to me, and I am very glad to have this opportunity of meeting representatives of this large community in the Central Provinces. You have given me a translation of your address, and I find from it what a considerable place is naturally occupied in the estimation of the people of the chief town of the Central Provinces by the two important subjects of local self-government and education. It is natural, I say, that you should allude specially to these two questions, because in regard to both of them great progress has been made in these provinces under the able administration of my friend Sir John Morris. Long before the questions of local self-government and education were dealt with by the Government since I have been at its head, —long before I came to this country you enjoyed in the Central Provinces the elective franchise in your municipalities, and under the Resolution of the Government of

Address from the people of Jubbulpore.

India of 1882 very little—indeed, practically speaking, nothing—has been required to be done in respect of the municipalities in this district. You had already given an example which weighed very much with the Government in the course which they then took. You had already shown what might be done by elective municipalities, and that they were, in this part of India at all events, able to manage their own local affairs. I rejoice greatly to understand from my valued friend Mr. Crosthwaite that the municipalities of the Central Provinces are doing excellent work. Indeed, he tells me with no little pride that the town of Jubbulpore is one of the best managed and the cleanest town in the provinces under his charge, and I rather suspect he thinks that this city and a good many other of your towns can stand a fair comparison with towns of other parts of India. With respect to local self-government in the rural districts, I also rejoice to hear that under the system which was established by the Bill passed a few years ago and carefully prepared by Mr. Crosthwaite and Sir John Morris, good progress is being made, and that the administration of rural affairs is also advancing in a satisfactory manner. With regard to education, primary education had received here, in the Central Provinces, more attention perhaps than in any other part of India a few years ago. What you had done here is very much that which the Government of India is now endeavouring to do throughout the length and breadth of the land. But it is not only with regard to primary education that you stand prominently forward in this great matter. You have lately been taking steps, to which I attach a very great value, for the promotion of secondary education, both here in Jubbulpore, where you have come forward munificently to increase the efficiency and to effect great improvements in the college which already existed, and also in Nagpore, where they are now raising equally by local and private subscriptions a new college for higher education. Gentle-

Addresses from the people of Hoshungabad and Hurda.

men, I have sometimes heard it said that the Central Provinces were rather a backward part of India ; all I can say is that I can see no proof that this is the case, when I find that you have made such advances in the matter of self-government and in the matter of education. I offer you, gentlemen, my hearty congratulations upon the position which you hold in respect of these two questions. I thank you most sincerely for the reception you have given me, and I pray God that he may ever bless you.

ADDRESSES FROM THE PEOPLE OF HOSHUNGABAD
AND HURDA.

16th Dec 1884. [At Sohagpur, where a halt was made for dinner on Tuesday evening, the 16th December, elaborate preparations had been made for the reception of Lord and Lady Ripon. Deputations had travelled up the line from Hurda (which would have been passed during the night) and Hoshungabad. The station was illuminated ; blue-lights were burned as the train came to a stand-still, and bonfires were lighted outside the railway premises. In the waiting-room, where the deputations were received by Lord Ripon, the greatest pains had been taken to make the apartment worthy of the ceremony. Fountains, half hidden by shrubs and flowers, played inside and outside the room. The walls were festooned with coloured cloths, while stags' heads and other trophies of the chase, mottoes in red and gold, and artistic devices in wax flowers, made up a charming interior. Having been introduced by Colonel Ricketts, the Hoshungabad deputation first presented their address, and then the representatives of the native residents of Hurda. Lord Ripon replied to the two addresses in the following terms:—]

Gentlemen,—I thank you sincerely for the addresses which you have presented to me and for the kind expressions of regret at my departure from India which are contained in them. I can assure you that you may feel perfectly satisfied that all your interests will be promoted and guarded with perfect justice by the distinguished states-

Addresses from the people of Hoshungabad and Hurda.

man to whom I have just handed over the administration of this country. I know that he feels the deepest interest in the welfare of the people of India. It has been a source of regret to me that I have not been able, during the time I have been in this country, to pay a visit to the Central Provinces. I have more than once contemplated doing so, but various circumstances have prevented me from carrying out the project, and therefore I feel even more grateful to you for this proof of the esteem which you are good enough to entertain for me. You have reminded me, gentlemen, that the first legislative measure in connection with the development of local self-government passed by the Legislative Council of India during my administration related to the Central Provinces. In one sense, perhaps, it may be said that it was unnecessary that such a measure should be passed for your provinces before any other part of India, because before I came to this country, or took up the question of local self-government, great progress in that matter had been already made in these provinces; but, on the other hand, that very fact justly entitled you to the priority which circumstances gave you in regard to legislation upon this subject. I heartily rejoice to believe from the assurances you have given me to-night, and from what was told me a few hours ago by my friend Mr. Crosthwaite, that the recent measures for the development of self-government in these provinces are attaining a marked and important success. I know that some persons think it was strange that in this part of India men should have been found so fit to discharge the duties of local self-government, but whatever surprise that fact may create in those not acquainted with the past history of the provinces, there can be, I think, no doubt that that history proves that you were well-fitted for the steps that have been taken to entrust to you a larger share in the management of your own affairs. You, gentlemen from Hurda, have alluded to the recent establishment of

Addresses from the people of Hoshungabad and Hurda.

two new institutions for higher education in these provinces. I can assure you that it has afforded me very great satisfaction to have had a hand in sanctioning that development of higher education in this part of the country, because I attach, as I have often had occasion to say lately, the very greatest value to the full development of middle and higher education throughout the whole of India. Gentlemen, I shall have great pleasure in laying at the feet of our gracious Sovereign the assurances of your loyalty which you have entrusted to me to place before her. I need not tell you how deep an interest the Queen-Empress feels in the happiness and welfare of her Indian subjects. She charged me to promote their happiness to the utmost of my power, and it has been in accordance with her directions that I have done my best since I held the office of Governor-General to develop the resources of the country and to promote your best interests. It is gratifying to me to find that you appreciate my efforts. I can assure you that if in England I can do anything to advance your welfare my best endeavours will be willingly accorded. I now heartily wish you good-bye.

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ADDRESSES FROM VARIOUS PUBLIC BODIES.

[Early on the morning of the 17th December Lord Ripon received 17th Dec. 1884 an address at Pachora from the inhabitants of Dhulha, in the district of Khandeish. The address bore one thousand signatures, and the deputation had travelled a considerable distance in order to say farewell to Lord Ripon. At Munmar, two hours later, a series of deputations, coming even from Nagpore, the Berars, Wardha, and Indore, were in waiting. A shamiana had been erected, and the greatest pains had been taken to embellish the station building. Indeed, throughout the G. I. P. line from Jubbulpore the stations were, with few exceptions, most elaborately decorated, flowers and flags being freely provided and very tastefully arranged. After breakfast the Marquis of Ripon took his seat in the shamiana, the members of the various deputations ranging themselves at right angles with the line, so as to permit Lady Ripon to witness the ceremony from her carriage. Addresses were then presented on behalf of the inhabitants of Ahmednuggur, of Nagpore, of the Berar Municipalities, of the native inhabitants of the Indore Residency, the Wardha Municipality, the Wardha District Council, the inhabitants of Khandwa, and the Arvi (Wardha) Municipality. The Ahmednuggur address was enclosed in an oblong casket of silver, having on the lid a representation of the fort and around the side various Hindu deities; a silver casket also accompanied the address from the Wardha District Council, and with the Berar address 8,000 signatures were handed in. Lord Ripon, replying to the addresses, said :—]

Gentlemen,—I assure you that I am greatly touched by the addresses which you have presented to me this morning, and by the many proofs which they contain of the kindly feelings which you entertain towards me and of the approval which you accord to the acts of my administration. I am sorry that the time at my disposal will not permit me to enter at length upon the various topics which have been touched upon in those addresses, but I have recently had so many opportunities of expressing my views upon these subjects that there is less necessity for my attempting to do so once more upon this occasion. It has been the desire of the Government of India during the last

Addresses from various public bodies.

four years to promote to the utmost of its power the well-being of the many millions entrusted by our gracious Sovereign to the care of her Government. We have striven to extend and develope education in the more usual sense of the word by increasing the number and raising the efficiency of primary schools, but no less by endeavouring to extend and develope the secondary education of the country. We have also desired to promote that education in a more indirect but not less important manner by calling upon the people to take an increased share in the management of their own affairs. In regard to those questions connected with the land to which allusion has been made, it has been the aim of our policy to afford greater security than has hitherto existed in matters of land revenue, as to the grounds and principles upon which that revenue will be assessed, to make each assessment more elastic by providing for the suspension and, if need be, the remission of revenue in times of famine or distress, and also where necessary, as in the case of the Central Provinces, to place the relations of landlord and tenant upon a well-defined and clear basis. Gentlemen, in all these measures, and in the others to which you have been alluding, we have but been carrying into execution the orders of that gracious Sovereign to whom you owe such deep attachment, and for whom, I rejoice to think, you are animated by such warm feelings of loyalty. I have not time, I regret to say, now to touch upon the special features of the addresses which have been delivered to-day from different parts of the country. I must, however, express my thanks to you, gentlemen of Amednuggur, for the arrangements which you have made for this reception, and for the very kindly feeling which you have displayed towards me. I shall esteem it an honor that my name should be connected with the civil hospital which I understand you are about to erect in your city. No more useful institution can exist in any town, and I regard it as

Addresses from various public bodies.

a proof of your friendly feelings that you should wish it to be called after myself. To you, gentlemen of Nagpore, I have also to say I shall be glad that you should call your new Hall by my name, as you are good enough to desire to do so. Not only are municipal institutions flourishing in Nagpore, but you have also given there a conspicuous proof of your interest in the cause of education by the efforts which you are now making to establish amongst you by your private munificence and under private management a valuable college for secondary education.

Gentlemen from the Berars, I am very glad to meet you here to-day. It has not been in my power to visit your country, but I have watched its progress with great interest, and I am happy to assure you that the system of local self-government which has been devised for that province will, I hope, be speedily carried into effect. To you who have come here from Indore I also tender my thanks ; and to all of you, gentlemen, from Wardha and from other districts, those thanks are offered. I can assure you I shall ever feel grateful for the manner in which you have received me to-day. The thought of India will often recur to me when I get to my own land, and it will always be a main object of such portion of life as may remain to me to do for the people of this country any service it may be in my power to perform.

[The deputations who had been introduced by Mr. Robertson, the Commissioner of the Northern Division, next presented their gifts, loading with garlands and bouquets Lord Ripon, Lady Ripon, and Mr. Primrose. His Lordship graciously complying with the request of the deputations, was photographed in their midst ; and the train left the station amid loud cheering. At Nasick an address from the Municipality was received, but time did not allow of a reply.]

ADDRESSES FROM DEPUTATIONS AT BOMBAY.

18th Dec. 1884. [On Thursday afternoon, the 18th instant, Lord Ripon, accompanied by Sir James Fergusson (Governor of Bombay), Mr. Primrose and other members of their respective Staffs, drove from Government House, Parel, to the Town Hall, Bombay, to receive the farewell addresses from the deputations who had come from all parts of the Presidency to present them to His Excellency. The streets everywhere along the route were thronged with enthusiastic crowds, and profusely decorated with triumphal arches, flags, and banners. The Viceregal carriages arrived at the main entrance of the Town Hall at 2 P.M. Here at the head of the steps Lord Ripon was received by the Hon. General Merriman, Mr. Nugent, and Khan Bahadur Muncherjee, C. Murzban, the Committee appointed by Government. The assembly at the Town Hall was in every respect a memorable one. Many of the hundreds of delegates had not hesitated to engage upon a journey of several days in order to present their late Viceroy with the farewell addresses with which their fellows in far-distant towns and districts had entrusted them. Some bore with them addresses given into their care by the representatives of communities unable themselves to travel to Bombay. Many of the delegates—such as those from the Poona Sabha—brought ponderous tomes filled with innumerable signatures collected in distant talukas. The address from the five agricultural districts of Guzerat was accompanied by a lakh of signatures, and others were almost equally notable for a similar reason. In the front of the space reserved for those who had received special letters of invitation sat the deputation representing the great meeting held in the same building a few weeks ago in the name of the City of Bombay. The municipalities throughout the Bombay Presidency sent a host of representatives, and the Madras deputations, easily distinguishable by their more brilliant colours and darker complexions, were also a goodly number. As Lord Ripon and Sir J. Fergusson entered the Town Hall they were greeted with a storm of cheering. They took their seats on the central platform, and a large number of European and Native gentlemen occupied places on the semi-circular dais which had been specially erected. The group was a brilliant one, including the Commander-in-Chief of Bombay, and many political, military, and naval officers in full uniform, the Consular representatives in Bombay, and several Native Chiefs.

His Excellency the Governor opened the proceedings with the following remarks: My Lord Marquis,—It was the duty of the Government of

Addresses from Deputations at Bombay.

Bombay to arrange for the approach to Your Excellency of the numerous deputations from all parts of this Presidency, and even from the neighbouring Presidency of Madras, with such order and procedure as might give the fullest representation of the respect and regard in which your Excellency is so widely held, having, at the same time, a due regard to the limits which the time at Your Excellency's disposal imposed. I trust, my Lord, that in the arrangements which the Government have made they will have accomplished these objects in such a manner that no deputation will feel itself forgotten, and that all may approach Your Excellency with due regularity. It was impossible that so vast a number of addresses could be read in full, and it is therefore proposed, with Your Excellency's approval, that these addresses, of which you have already received copies, shall only be placed in your hands by the leaders of the respective deputations. But there are addresses which require a separate treatment, especially the one which was adopted by a most remarkable and comprehensive meeting of the native inhabitants of Bombay of all classes. (*Loud cheers*) It is proposed, my Lord, that the chairman of that meeting, Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, as the head of the deputation, shall read the address in full. There is also one from the City of Madras, not less important, I believe, and which breathes similar sentiments—(*cheers*)—and there is another from Mysore. I may mention to Your Lordship that two hundred members, representative of that great meeting held in Bombay, are seated together on the left. My Lord, I hope to be permitted, before closing, to express, on my own behalf, the deep feelings of gratitude which I entertain to Your Lordship for your many actual kindnesses during your Viceroyalty—(*hear, hear, and cheers*)—and on behalf of my colleagues, as well as my own, for the constant consideration and courtesy which have characterised all the communications of your Government with that of Bombay, and which have rendered it not only an honour, but a pleasure to serve you. (*Loud cheers.*)

His Excellency the Governor then called upon Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy to read the address voted at the great Town Hall meeting of the native inhabitants of Bombay.

Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, before reading the address, made the following prefatory remarks:—May it please Your Excellency,—It is my privilege, as chairman of a public meeting of the native inhabitants of Bombay, held here on the 29th November last, to introduce to Your Lordship the deputation appointed on behalf of that meeting to present the following address. One word of preface may perhaps be permitted to me, that I may, on my own behalf, on behalf of that class

Addresses from Deputations at Bombay.

of the community which I am privileged more especially to represent, and as I am entitled to-day to do, on behalf of the entire native public of Bombay, testify to the pleasure with which we see Your Lordship once more among us, and to the regret with which we anticipate your approaching departure. Believe me, my Lord, we cherish the hope—the assured conviction—that your connection with India, as it began before you came to us, will not cease when you leave us; that in the Parliament of England, and in the Council Chamber of Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, you will remember India; that on Saturday, when we must bid you a last farewell, we shall not only be parting with a beloved Viceroy, whose benign and beneficent administration will ever be gratefully remembered among us, but also be bidding God-speed on his way home to an English statesman of the first rank who is in himself—and long may he continue to be—a living link that cannot be broken between England and India.

Then followed the other deputations in rapid succession, until on the platform behind Lord Ripon rose a regular rampart of silver caskets, carved sandalwood, ivory, or inlaid boxes, volumes, or parchment rolls of signatures, illuminated addresses on silks and satins, or printed on paper in gold and fancy inks. The Ahmedabad deputation wrapped their address in a gorgeous kincob, and other western delegates tendered similar embroidered fabrics with their written words of gratitude and farewell, until one might have fairly furnished a museum illustrative of Indian arts and industries with the specimens of local handicrafts brought from many a town. Among the more bulky presentations was that of Mr. S. H. Chiplonkar of Poona, in whose ten bulky volumes were bound up vernacular addresses from about 3,000 villages in eighteen districts of the Presidency, to which 150,000 signatures had been affixed. The substance of these addresses in a brief summarised form alone occupied ten closely-printed foolscap pages. Some twenty-five addresses from the Madras Presidency were also presented in volume form by Mr. Somsuandra Chettyar, who read that sent by the townspeople of Madras. The figure of Mr. D. S. White, the well-known president of the Madras Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Society, evoked a hearty cheer as he walked up the centre of the hall with the address forwarded by the members. Last of all came the address from the inhabitants of the ancient capital of the Mysore State. This was also read to Lord Ripon. It was presented by a deputation headed by Military Buksha Bassappaji, the brother-in-law to His Highness the Maharaj, and a splendid gift accompanied it in the shape of a large Mysore box, carved with exquisite skill and containing old silver coins and *Swami* images. The

Addresses from Deputations at Bombay.

following is the official list of the deputations, but no estimate can be formed of the number of addresses presented in the course of the afternoon :—

Bombay.

Poona Sarvajanik Sabha. (Addresses from about eighty talukas were treated as appendices to this address and handed in therewith.)

Poona Municipality.

Satara Municipality.

Satara Public.

Surat Municipality and Public.

Viramgam Municipality.

Nadiad Municipality.

Broach Municipality. (Addresses from the Broach Local Self-Government Association and the Duyan Udaya and Narayan Sabhas were treated as appendices to this address and handed in with it.)

Ahmedabad Municipality.

Kanara.

Arya Duyan Vardhak Sabha.

Hansot.

Anjuman Ahbab.

Bombay Branch, East India Association.

Bombay and Berar Native Press.

Private Educational Institutions.

Anjuman-i-Islam.

Surat Mahomedan Association.

Sholapur.

Surat Agricultural Classes.

Kaira do.

Panch Mahals do.

Thana.

Gujarat Local Self-Government. (The address from the Praja Hit Vardhak Sabha was treated as an appendix to this address and handed in therewith.)

Protestant Native Christians.

Ahmedabad Agricultural Classes.

Broach do. do.

Colaba Public.

Rander.

Kurrachee Town.

Sind Sabha.

Rutnagherry Public.

Bombay Piece-goods Association.

Madras.

Salem.

Goody.

Bellary.

Madras Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Society.

Madras Mahajan Sabha.

Triplicane Literary Society.

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Vellore.

Madura Union Club.

Rajamundry.

Cuddalore.

Chintadripetta Literary Association.

Mysore.

As the last deputation retired Lord Ripon rose to reply, the whole assembly standing as he did so. Having requested all to be seated, His Lordship commenced his address, a band of music at the same time making known its near neighbourhood to the hall. Gradually however, the music died away, and save for the cheers which every few moments broke from the audience, every word was listened to in perfect quiet. His Lordship's address lasted exactly an hour. His Excellency spoke as follows:—]

Gentlemen,—Some feelings are best expressed in the simplest language, because the strongest is inadequate to convey them. And therefore, in thanking you for the addresses which in such numbers you have just presented to me, and for the wonderful reception which I have received at the hands of this great city to-day, I can find no better way of explaining to you my sentiments than to say that I thank you with all my heart. (*Cheers*) Any man, gentlemen, might justly be proud of the appreciation of his policy, of the approval of his measures, which after four and a half years of arduous government have been afforded by the occurrences of this morning. Your approval, as manifested in these addresses, needs no development or explanation from me; but nevertheless I would ask you to bear with me while I touch upon some of the many questions to which these addresses allude. When I came to India war existed between England and Afghanistan, and it was the first duty of my government to bring that contest to an early and an honourable conclusion. The policy of those whom I represented was to secure, if possible, upon our north-western frontier a strong, a friendly, and an independent Afghanistan. Gentlemen, I think we may fairly claim that, in a large measure at all events, that object has been attained. (*Cheers*.) We could not have

Addresses from Deputations at Bombay.

a more marked proof that the Government of the present ruler of Afghanistan is strong than that which has been just afforded by the peaceful and successful march of a small body of British officers and British troops through some of the most outlying districts of the Afghan kingdom, and amid some of the most turbulent tribes that acknowledge the sway of the Amir. I need not say that Afghanistan has recovered perfect independence in regard to her internal administration, and I can assure you that our relations with that country were never at any time in a more friendly and cordial condition than they are at the present moment. (*Cheers.*) Since the Afghan war was brought to a conclusion complete tranquillity has reigned in India, with a few unimportant exceptions with which the Government has known how to deal promptly and firmly; and with peace without and tranquillity within we were able at an early period of my administration to fulfil a pledge which I gave in this city to the Bombay Corporation in 1880. (*Cheers.*) I told them that it was my earnest desire to devote the attention of my Government to those works of internal improvement which that Corporation then brought prominently under my notice. (*Cheers.*) And foremost among those internal questions stood out the question of finance. In 1880 much discredit had been thrown on Indian finance—a discredit in a great degree unfounded and unjust; and I am bound to say, as I have alluded to that state of things, that I can find no proof of the truth or the validity of the very grave charges which were brought at one time in that respect against the Government of my predecessor, and especially against Sir John Strachey. At all events, it was the earnest effort of my honourable friend Sir Evelyn Baring and myself—(*loud cheers*)—yes, gentlemen, you are right to cheer the name of Sir Evelyn Baring—(*renewed cheers*)—for India never had a truer friend nor an abler servant—it was our effort to restore public confidence in the soundness of Indian

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finance; and I think I may justly claim that in that effort we have succeeded, and we have succeeded in doing so while at the same time we made a larger remission of taxation than had been made at any previous period of Indian history. The rumours which were then abroad about Indian finance have been dispelled. Taxation has been largely reduced, and the Famine Insurance Fund has been placed upon a sound and secure footing. Gentlemen, I rejoice to observe that in many of your addresses you have spoken with gratitude of the reduction of the salt duty. (*Cheers.*) There have been those who have pretended that that reduction has conferred no benefit upon the country; but hard dry facts are there to contradict that statement, because the revenue from salt is rapidly growing, and as it grows it shows that the consumption must be increasing, and that there must be more of that valuable commodity at the disposal of the poor. I look forward at no distant day to the time when the salt duty will have fully recouped itself—(*cheers*)—and then it will be in the power of my noble friend and successor to consider the propriety of a further reduction. Gentlemen, through God's mercy we have been spared during the four and a half years of my government from the grievous evils of famine. When I came out here in 1880 my attention was drawn in this city to the evils which had resulted from the famine which had then recently desolated many parts of Bombay. I told you then that we would do our best to afford the country greater security in future against the recurrence of that tremendous misfortune. Well, we have done so. Aided by the labours of the Famine Commission, and by their full and exhaustive inquiries, we have taken steps which I have no doubt will bear excellent fruit when the hour of trial comes. Foremost among them I place the efforts which we have made, and which the Government of India is still making, for the extension of railways, for

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there is no surer means of preventing famine than by opening up fresh communications in the country. (*Cheers.*) Again, there is now in every part of India a Famine Code in existence, if not completed in all cases, yet practically ready for work if the necessity should arise; and the Government of India, with the sanction of the Secretary of State, took early steps to re-establish the Revenue and Agricultural Department, so that it might be ready, if the trial should come, to put at once into operation the measures necessary for meeting the danger. And I believe that this Government was never at any previous period of its history so well able to cope with scarcity or famine as it is at the present moment. (*Cheers.*) Then, gentlemen, we have engaged in what is often called a more active Public Works policy. I admit that my main reason for giving a cordial support to a policy of that description has been my deep and strong sense of the duty of the English Government to promote measures to cope with the evils of famine in this country. But besides that we have a duty to perform in developing the resources and opening up the communications of the country, and the Government is endeavouring to do so at a greater rate than they proceeded before, subject to one condition, laid down for us by the House of Commons Committee, and in which I cordially concur;—that condition is that our efforts in that direction shall not impose further burdens of taxation on the people. (*Cheers.*) Then, gentlemen, we have naturally turned our attention to the many important questions connected with the land in India. No questions in India are really of so great importance to the great mass of the population as those concerning land revenue and land tenure. It has been the object of our measures to afford to the payers of land revenue greater security in the future as to the principles upon which that revenue will be assessed, and to save them from much of the harassing investigations which have taken place under the system pre-

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viously in force. We have desired to secure to the owners and the cultivators of the soil the full and undiminished benefit of every improvement which they may make in their land, and we have striven to give to our methods of levying the land revenue a greater elasticity, by establishing a system of suspensions and even of remissions in time of scarcity and famine, so that when the hour of need comes the pressure of the revenue may not be felt. (*Loud cheers.*) And, gentlemen, I am glad to speak upon this subject here, because I have the pleasant duty of acknowledging the cordial assistance which I have received from my right honourable friend your Governor—(*cheers*)—in this important matter. I venture to say that at the present moment the land revenue system in Bombay is ahead of that in any other part of India—(*cheers*)—although measures are being taken elsewhere, notably in Madras, with the same object in view. You have spoken, gentlemen, on the subject of Agricultural Banks. Upon that I can say nothing—for it is a subject still under discussion between the Secretary of State and the Government of India—beyond the giving expression to my own very earnest desire that a fair and honest experiment in the matter, a real and *bond fide* trial may be given to Banks of that description. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, you have most of you in your addresses alluded, as was natural, to the part which I took in the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, and it has formed the prominent topic in the address from the Vernacular Press in this Presidency. I have spoken upon this subject very recently, and as those nimble-fingered gentlemen who are good enough to take down my words, send those words throughout the length and breadth of the country in a manner which may be—if the words are worth listening to—advantageous to the public, but is sometimes embarrassing to the speaker when he has a great many speeches to make on the same topic—(*laughter and cheers*)—I will not detain you upon that subject further than to say that I esteem

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it an honour to have had a hand in repealing that Act. (*Renewed cheering.*) I do not think that any man who watches with moderate care the signs of the times in India can fail to notice the increasing power of public opinion. (*Cheers.*) Now, that increasing power throws a growing responsibility upon you, gentlemen, who are connected with the press. You have a great deal to do with the formation of public opinion, and for the soundness of that opinion you may be very responsible. If you are thankful to me, as you tell me that you are, and as I believe, for the part that I have taken in striking off the fetters with which you were bound a few years ago, then the best reward that you can give me is to exercise your important and responsible functions justly and wisely. (*Loud cheers.*) Nearly connected with the question of the freedom of the press is the general question of education. Education, gentlemen, is a thorny subject in every country in these days, and in India it is accompanied by difficulties of its own. It is, therefore, a source of the highest gratification to me to believe from the expressions of public opinion which have come under my notice that the Resolution the Government of India recently issued upon this matter has been received with general approval. Our policy in regard to it has been to give an impetus to primary education, which we desire to see spread more and more as funds and opportunities will permit throughout the land, to appeal to private munificence to come in and aid the Government in this great work, and at the same time to be ever careful to uphold and to advance higher education throughout the country. (*Cheers.*) I believe that in consequence of the labours of the Education Commission it has been in our power to lay down sound principles upon which primary education may be advanced in the future, and I am glad to say that in many parts of the country—in Poona, in Bombay, in Agra, in the Central Provinces, and elsewhere—the

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appeal which we have made to private aid and private management in this matter of education is receiving a cordial and I trust a fruitful response. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, it is a great pleasure to me to learn from the address which was read by my friend Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy that it is the desire of the people of this great city to connect my name with a technical school. I shall indeed be proud to accept that offer—(*cheers*)—for I am deeply convinced of the great importance of technical education everywhere, and especially in India. (*Continued cheers.*) There is no country in the world, perhaps, in which it is more important that manufactures should spring up, and that industries and arts should flourish, so that the pressure of the population on the land may be relieved and new sources of employment may be open to the masses of the people. Therefore I trust, and I have every reason to believe, that this question of technical education will receive adequate attention from my noble successor, Lord Dufferin. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, there is one branch of education in respect of which I have been able to do much less than I should have liked but in which I feel a very deep interest, and that is female education. (*Cheers.*) The subject, we all know, is a difficult one. Many social considerations are mixed up with it, but it is very agreeable to me to perceive that it is attracting a large amount of attention among intelligent men in this country, and to observe the efforts which are being made at Poona and elsewhere for the establishment of efficient female schools. The difficulties of the question make it necessary that the Government of India should proceed with caution in regard to it. It is for you, gentlemen, to come forward, for you to show the way to the Government, for you to prove what may be done with general acceptance, and then you will find every Indian Government ready enough to follow you. (*Cheers.*) May I be permitted to say that everything which concerns the position of woman in India is of

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vital importance ? (*Renewed cheers.*) The Government at the present moment can do little, you can do much : let me ask you earnestly to lay to heart that first of social problems. (*Continued cheers.*) Gentlemen, I shall have an opportunity tomorrow of saying something as to my views upon the important subject of local self-government and I will therefore content myself now with expressing the satisfaction which I feel at the substantial progress which has been made already in this matter. (*Cheers.*) The elections for municipalities which have recently taken place in the Upper Provinces of India, in Bengal, in the Central Provinces, and to some extent in Bombay, have all been, so far as I am able to learn, of a highly satisfactory character, and give promise of a gratifying result for the policy which the Government with which I have been connected has pursued in this matter. And I am quite sure that in a few months, when the measures with the view of carrying out the Acts recently passed in this Presidency shall have been completed and brought into full execution, results at least equally satisfactory will attend their application in Bombay. Our object, gentlemen, briefly stated, in the policy we have pursued in this matter, has been to encourage self-help among the people, to afford them means of training themselves for the management of their own local affairs, and to secure in that administration that local interest, supervision, and care which it was the object of Lord Mayo to attain by the famous Decentralization Resolution which will form one of the noblest memorials of his distinguished Viceroyalty. (*Cheers.*) And, gentlemen, when the work is completed here, when your local boards are established in the various districts of this great Presidency, let me beg you, as my last request connected with this subject, in which I have felt so deep and keen an interest, to turn your attention to the question—small it may be in some senses of the word, but of the greatest magnitude for the

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benefit of the mass of the people—to the question of village sanitation. (*Cheers.*) I leave that as my legacy of work for Local Boards in India. (*Loud cheering.*) Gentlemen, I cannot thank all the separate deputations, so numerous are they, which have appeared before me to-day—I cannot thank them separately; time would not permit it, nor could my powers suffice; but I must express the great pleasure with which I have learnt that some of these deputations have been really composed of actual cultivators of the soil. (*Cheers.*) I told you in 1880 that the first object of my administration would be to promote the welfare of the masses of the people, and therefore it is pleasant indeed to see that those for whom I have laboured are here to tell me that my work has not been in vain. (*Loud cheers.*) But I must say a word or two to you, gentlemen of Madras, for you have come far indeed to do me the honour of presenting me with your address to-day. I heartily thank you. I shall not forget the reception you gave me last winter, and I receive this further proof of your regard and attachment with the utmost gratification.

Gentlemen from Salem, I rejoice to meet you under happier circumstances than those which existed when we met before. (*Cheers.*) But you must allow me to remind you that you do not owe your foremost thanks to me for the release of those in whom you were so much interested. I cordially approved and heartily rejoiced over the measures which the Madras Government took in that matter, and I was in communication with them about it; but it was the free act of the Madras Government, and to my right honourable friend Mr. Grant Duff your first thanks are due. (*Cheers.*) And now, gentlemen, I am not going to speak to the majority of this great assembly. I want to say a few words to a limited deputation; they are words that I am glad to say, for this is the first occasion upon which I have had the opportunity to vindicate one portion of my conduct which

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has been greatly assailed. I can assure you, the deputation from the Eurasian and Anglo-Indian Society of Madras, that I am deeply grateful for your presence here to-day—(*cheers*)—because it shows that you at least have rightly understood the real feelings of the Government of India, and that, in spite of the efforts that have been made to injure that Government in the minds of the Anglo-Indian and Eurasian population, you have been and have rightly understood the real feelings by which we have been animated. (*Loud and continued cheering.*) It might perhaps have been recollected that among one of the early measures of my Government was the issue of a Resolution for the promotion of education among Anglo-Indians and Eurasians. That Resolution was not received with perfect favour by a large portion of the native community. They criticised it somewhat sharply, but I persisted in it because I believed that by it we were doing an act of justice to one portion of the community. Enlightened by the inquiries of that able man, Archdeacon Baly, whose services unluckily have been lost to India, we put forth measures which I hope will bear increasing fruit for the benefit of the community to which I am alluding. Then, gentlemen, there was another Resolution which was regarded, I will not say so far as that goes, unjustly as calculated to interfere with the prospects of that community. I speak of what is known as the Roorkee Resolution. Well, the time has come when I may tell the whole truth of that story, and I will tell it now, because it will be told next Saturday in the *Government Gazette*. For long years under successive Governments representing different political parties, the Secretary of State for India had been impressing upon the Government of India the untoward fact that there did not appear to be a single pure native of India among those who obtained guaranteed appointments from the College at Roorkee. The Secretaries of State, one after another, said—and I quite agree with them—that that was

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a highly unsatisfactory condition of affairs, and they pressed upon us that measures should be taken to remedy it by confining those guaranteed appointments not to statutory natives of India, but to men of pure Asiatic blood alone. We were disinclined to take that step, because we were very reluctant to draw any distinction between those who under the law are called natives of India, but we felt that a system which so worked as to prevent the great mass of people from obtaining any benefit from it was a system which could not be defended. And at last we came to the conclusion that we ought to follow the bidding of the Secretary of State, and in accordance with that we put out the Roorkee Resolution; and at the same time we took other measures which we believed would be calculated to render it more easy for natives of India in the ordinary sense of the word to come in and obtain all the advantages of education in that college. When that Resolution was published, we received many representations that it would work hardly to those whom it excluded from guaranteed appointments. We sent forward these representations, and we felt bound to tell the Secretary of State we thought there was much justice in them. But we explained that the real difficulty lay in this: from a variety of circumstances the number of guaranteed appointments to be competed for annually had greatly decreased, and it was not possible to open those appointments freely to the whole class of statutory natives of India without running the risk of excluding one portion of them or the other. Therefore, we said, the true remedy is to increase the number of appointments, and then you can restore free competition among those whom the law calls natives of India. (*Cheers.*) Well, it took some time to press our views upon the authorities in London, but we have at length succeeded in doing so; and next *Saturday's Gazette*, while it will increase the total number of guaranteed appointments to be given away, will once more freely open

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them to all statutory natives of India. (*Prolonged cheering.*) I may be permitted to say one word with respect to the address from a very limited body, the address which was presented to me by the native Christians to-day. I heartily thank them for it, and for their recognition of the impartial character of my administration. This brief sketch, gentlemen, of the work which we have been doing during the last four and a half years does not cover the whole ground, but it is, I think, sufficient to show that during that not very prolonged space of time good and substantial work has been accomplished by the Government with which I have been connected. (*Cheers.*) But, gentlemen, you would be much mistaken if you were to attribute to me alone the work which has been done. Throughout the whole time of my Viceroyalty I have received valuable support from my colleagues of the Executive Council. I have always acted in closest intimacy and most friendly co-operation with them, and on this, as upon other occasions, I tender them my warmest thanks. It is not to them alone that my hearty thanks are due ; and now as I stand upon the western shores of India, and shall quit this land for ever in a few hours, the time has come when I must express my grateful acknowledgments to those members of both branches of the services, and of all ranks, from whom I have received valuable assistance in so many ways. (*Cheers.*) And first and foremost here I must tender those thanks to you, Sir James Fergusson (*turning to the Governor amid loud cheers*) for the cordial assistance and support which you have given me. Even in the midst of all the gratifying circumstances of a day like this, few words have been more pleasant than those in which you were pleased to recognise the friendly character of our relations. (*Renewed cheers.*) For that support in which your able colleagues have shared I shall feel ever grateful. I shall also recollect with gratitude the aid which many men throughout the country who have at heart the interests of the natives of this land as

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truly as I have myself have afforded to me from day to day. My work in India—not my work for India I trust—is done. Theirs will long continue, and to them, under the control and guidance of that eminent, enlightened, and just statesman to whom it has been my great pleasure to hand over the administration, it is for you to turn. Having spoken of those with whom I have acted, I must say a word or two about those who have preceded me in the great office which I have had the honour to fill. The citizens of this great city in their address, for which I am so deeply grateful, used in the midst of their warm and friendly language some expressions which might seem to imply that they thought that I, and I alone, had brought into practical application principles which had hitherto been only observed in theory and formed part of solemn declarations. But, gentlemen, the principles upon which I have acted, and which were laid down more than fifty years ago by the authority of Parliament, have guided the policy and directed the action of the most eminent of my predecessors. The work of each Viceroyalty necessarily differs with the varying circumstances of the time. The tasks to which I have addressed myself have been those which have come naturally before me in the course of public business, and I have dealt with them in the same spirit as that which inspired the acts of Charles Metcalfe and William Bentinck, of Lord Canning and Lord Mayo—(*cheers*)—of John Lawrence and Lord Northbrook, and which so justly won for them so large a share of the respect and the gratitude of the people of this country. (*Loud cheers.*) The great principles upon which the Charter Act of 1833 was framed, and in which I have a hereditary interest as the son of one of the authors and advocates of that Act—(*cheers*)—England can never abandon consistently with her own honour and with a due regard for her noble reputation. They will ever guide the steps of Indian Viceroys, and you may rest securely beneath the shadow of their protection. Gentlemen, in past

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history men have at different periods set before themselves different ideals of good government. The greatest of Roman poets told his countrymen in words of glowing eloquence that it was their duty to create the habits of peace, to succour their subjects and to overthrow the proud. But according to my judgment, although that end was a noble and a high one, the aim of England ought to be nobler and higher still. It is true that she is bound in India to maintain unbroken peace, to succour the oppressed, and to restrain the proud, but she ought not to be satisfied, although undisturbed tranquillity reign from Peshawar to Ceylon, and though her equal justice be enthroned throughout the land. If she is to fulfil the mighty task which God has laid upon her, and to interpret rightly the wondrous story of her Indian empire, she must bend her untiring energies and her iron will to raise in the scale of nations the people entrusted to her care—(*enthusiastic cheering*)—to impart to them gradually more and more the richest gifts which she herself enjoys, and to rule them not for her own aggrandisement, nor yet for the mere profit of her own people, but with a constant and unwearied endeavour to promote their highest good. She is bound to labour, she must labour for their material advantage, but not for that alone; she must devote herself yet more to their intellectual development, to their political training—(*cheers*)—and to their moral elevation. It is thus, gentlemen, that I have understood the mission of England in India—(*loud cheers*)—and it is in this spirit that I have endeavoured to discharge the arduous task which four years ago was entrusted to my care. (*Renewed cheering.*) I am of course only too well aware how little I have succeeded in reaching so high an ideal as this, but nevertheless I am not inclined to acquiesce in the criticism of those who say that during the term of my Viceroyalty no substantial work has been done. From that criticism I appeal to your verdict—(*cheers*)—and with that verdict I shall rest

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content. (*Loud cheers.*) Now, gentlemen, I have but one more duty to perform, and that is to tell you that I shall bear with me across the ocean those repeated expressions of deep and heartfelt loyalty towards our gracious Sovereign—(*loud cheers*)—which will be found in every address that I have received. I will lay them at the feet of the Queen-Empress as the tribute of her Indian children, and she will receive them with all the warm affection of her royal heart. I have no more to say to you, gentlemen, except once more to thank you from the bottom of my heart, and to assure you that so long as it shall please God to continue to me health and strength to take a part in public affairs, I shall always esteem it one of my foremost duties and my greatest pleasures to labour to the utmost of my power to do anything which may tend to promote the welfare of the people of this land—(*cheers*)—from whom I have received so many proofs of attachment, and for whom I shall ever cherish a grateful and affectionate regard. (*Loud and continued cheering.*)

[The Marquis of Ripon then left the hall with the Governor and their suite, cheers being given for the Queen, Lord and Lady Ripon, and the Governor of Bombay.]

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ADDRESS FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
BOMBAY.

[On leaving the Town Hall His Excellency the Marquis of Ripon, 18th Dec. 1884. accompanied by His Excellency the Governor, proceeded to the Secretariat, and was greeted on the way with hearty cheers. Having partaken of lunch here, His Lordship repaired to the Council Hall, where he received the deputation from the Chamber of Commerce. It was headed by the Honourable Mr. Forbes Adam, the chairman of that body, who read the address. Lord Ripon, in reply, spoke as follows :—]

Gentlemen,—I am very much obliged to you for the address which you have presented to me. I assure you I have received it with the utmost satisfaction. It is a proof that I have not failed to redeem the promise which I made to you four years ago, as you have set out in your address. To me it has been a pleasure to encourage by every means in my power the interests of commerce and industry in this country. I have never forgotten the pledge which I gave in 1880, and it would be contrary to the whole tenour of my life if I had not desired to promote in every way the commerce and industry and manufactures of India. I have made the best efforts since the beginning of my term of office for that purpose, so far as lay within the functions of Government. It is, indeed, a satisfaction to me to learn from those who are so competent to form an opinion on such a question as you are that my administration has earned their approval, and to be assured by you that after four years and a half of administration, I leave the finances of India in a sound and healthy condition. For that result I ought to take little credit to myself, because it is in the main due to the ability, the industry, and the financial knowledge of the two distinguished gentlemen who during my term of office have been at the head of the Financial Department of the Government of India—my friends Sir Evelyn Baring and

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Sir Auckland Colvin. You have touched with approval on one measure which my Government has taken, but which I am afraid has not been regarded with favour by the majority of the people of this country, European or native. You have spoken of the repeal of the cotton duties. Gentlemen, if I were at all ashamed, which I am not, of that measure, I might take refuge behind the fact, which I think is generally acknowledged, and which indeed is not denied by those who preceded me in office, that the Government of Lord Lytton had left the cotton duties and the customs duties in a condition in which it was impossible that they could remain. It was necessary either to advance or to recede: things could not be left as they were; and it will, I imagine, be generally admitted that to go back was impossible. We had therefore little choice in the matter, and the course which we adopted was as necessary as I believe it to have been sound and wise. But I am not the least inclined to shelter myself behind the plea for necessity for the repeal of the customs duties. It was in harmony with the principles which I have professed during my whole public career, and of which I have never entertained a shadow of doubt. If I had belonged to the party which upheld protection until it could be maintained no longer, and some members of which are even inclined to coquet with it still, it might have been said that in applying free trade principles to India I was looking only to win support from certain quarters in England. But such a charge cannot be made even with a shadow of justice against Sir Evelyn Baring or myself, who have all our lives been earnest free-traders—certainly not against me, who at the commencement of my Parliamentary career stood by the side of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright in their last great free-trade meeting held in Manchester. I believe that by the repeal of the customs duties we have conferred great benefits on the people of this country, which in due time they will learn to appreciate. The question is doubtless

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one upon which some may differ ; some may agree with me, others may think that the course taken by the Government was wrong. But no one has a right to question the motives by which I have been actuated. I can truly say that my single desire has been to promote what I believe to be the good of the people of this country. You have alluded to a subject in which the Government have been greatly interested—the extension of railways in this country. This matter at an early period of my administration engaged my attention, and especially that point to which you have alluded, the powerful effect that railway extension will have in preventing famine. It is the most effectual agent which Government has for that purpose, and, speaking for myself, that has been my firmest object, though I have not overlooked the importance of developing and promoting to the utmost the resources of this country. I have steadily laboured to procure the sanction of the Government at home to a bolder and more active policy in this matter. Thanks to the report and labours of the Committee of the House of Commons, that sanction has been, to a certain extent, accorded, and the work will now proceed as rapidly as may be consistent with financial circumstances. I must say, however, that I cordially agree with the view expressed by the Committee of the House of Commons, that it is not desirable to throw additional burdens of taxation on the people of this country in connection with railway extension. Gentlemen, I thank you sincerely for this address. I esteem it highly as a token of approval on the part of men most competent to form an opinion on the financial and economical policy which we have pursued. (*Hear, hear.*)

CONVOCATION OF THE BOMBAY UNIVERSITY.

18th Dec 1884. [Lord Ripon then left the Secretariat for the University Hall, where a Convocation of the University of Bombay was held for the purpose of conferring the degree of Doctor of Laws on His Excellency. He met with an enthusiastic reception by the large crowds of people who had assembled on all sides outside the building. At the entrance were stationed a number of graduates and students belonging, for the most part, to the Elphinstone College, who had marched down from the Money School with banners bearing various mottoes, and were escorted by the band of the St. Mary's Institution. The students greeted His Lordship, as he went past, with deafening cheers. At first a procession of the Fellows of the University, headed by the Assistant Registrar, entered the hall and advanced up to the dais, where it formed a double line, leaving a passage between The Marquis of Ripon, the Chancellor (the Governor), and the Vice-Chancellor (Mr. Justice West), as they passed through this line, received the salutations of the Fellows. His Excellency the Governor took the Chancellor's seat on the dais at the upper end of the hall, the Vice-Chancellor occupying a seat on a lower elevation to the right, and Lord Ripon, who was to be the recipient of the honorary degree, having been assigned a seat in front of the Chancellor.

The company, representative as it was of all classes of the community, both Native and European, presented a very animating picture, the presence of many European and Parsee ladies considerably heightening the attractiveness of the scene. After all had taken their seats, the Vice-Chancellor rose and presented to the Chancellor the Marquis of Ripon, praying that His Lordship might be admitted to the degree of Doctor of Laws, in a speech which gave an elaborate review of Lord Ripon's public career, and was repeatedly interrupted by enthusiastic cheering. After the conclusion of his speech the Vice-Chancellor led Lord Ripon to the seat of the Chancellor, who admitted His Lordship to the degree of Doctor of Laws in these words: "By the authority given to me as Chancellor of the University, I admit you to the degree of Doctor of Laws, on account of your great and distinguished merit." This was the signal for a hearty burst of cheering, which having subsided, and Lord Ripon having taken the seat vacated for him by the Vice-Chancellor, the Chancellor addressed the assembly as follows:—

"Gentlemen of the Senate, —The honour which has just been conferred

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is one which should always be rare, conferred with discrimination and founded on general acceptance. I am sure that these requisites are fully satisfied by the degree that has just been conferred. It is rare, for it is, indeed, at this moment unique. That it will be conferred in future with discrimination I am also certain, and so will its value be maintained; but I am still more sure, that in the act of the Senate in electing the Marquis of Ripon to this honour, they have met the wishes and satisfied the heartfelt desires of every member of this University. And so this is the parting gift of the University of Bombay to the retiring Viceroy. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, I would say, though the Vice-Chancellor has set forth fully the claims of Lord Ripon to this degree, that although there may be in this Senate differences of opinion as there must always be about worldly affairs upon details of policy by the whole Senate, it has been heartily bestowed. (*Loud cheers.*) For myself I would say that no act of duty could be more grateful to myself than to be the spokesman in conferring the degree upon one whom I have served during his whole Viceroyalty, and in whom I have only recognised again a kind and considerate friend. And, though it be to compare small things with great, I cannot but recall at this moment that nearly thirty years ago, at the outset of my Parliamentary life, my noble friend introduced me and procured my election to a literary society at home. (*Cheers.*) We then sat on opposite sides of the house, and here to-day I am proud to repay him in kind. (*Cheers and laughter.*) May he long live to enjoy this and other honours! (*Loud cheers.*) I do not hesitate to congratulate him upon the honour so nobly bestowed, and I congratulate you, gentlemen of the Senate, on the admission of a member so altogether worthy of the honour." (*Loud and prolonged cheers.*)

The Marquis of Ripon then rose amid an outburst of cheering that was taken up with equal enthusiasm by the crowd outside. Silence having been obtained, His Excellency said :—]

Mr. Chancellor, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, and Gentlemen,—
I have seldom had a task in some respects more difficult than that which falls to my lot at the present moment. When I entered this hall, I knew that a distinction was about to be conferred upon me which I highly valued, because I saw in it a proof of the approval of a body which had devoted itself for many years to the advancement of the cause of education in India. But I was little prepared to find that I should have, if I may be pardoned the word, to encounter so appreciative a review of my public life as that which

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has fallen from my friend your Vice-Chancellor. (*Cheers.*) I only wish that I could think that his friendly judgment rightly described the course of that life, but I may perhaps be permitted to claim for it that there has at least been about it a certain unity. Throughout more than thirty years that I have taken part in public affairs in England, and now here, I have been actuated by the same general principles of policy, and I may say that I have adhered to them without wavering. I will not venture to occupy your time by following in any degree the observations which have been made upon the details of my public course, either at home or in India; but I will say this, that I esteem it an honour of the highest kind that a body such as this should have given such an unmistakeable intimation of their approval of the policy which I have pursued. (*Cheers.*) I should be the last man to take an unfair advantage of the signs of esteem which you have given me to-night, and to interpret them as meaning that all the members of this University approved of each individual measure of my Government. That of course is impossible; but at least I hope that I may interpret this degree as an indication that this distinguished body has followed with its sanction and with its approval the educational policy of the Government of India since I have been connected with it. (*Cheers.*) You, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, have reminded me that a large portion of my public life has been given to the promotion of education in my own land—of education in the widest and the broadest sense, of education for the most enlightened and of education for the masses. And that same policy which I endeavoured to apply when I had the honour to be connected with the Department of Education at home I have pursued in India. (*Cheers.*) Gentlemen, it would have been indeed strange if I had not taken an interest in Indian education, for I have sat for many years at the feet of Lord Halifax, and I am proud to count him among my warmest friends—(*cheers*)—and to

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call him my honoured master. (*Renewed cheers.*) The principles of that great Despatch of 1854 were those which I sought to apply and develope when I came out to this country; but I knew that, however sound these principles might be, it would not be wise after a lapse of thirty years to take measures for practically applying them to the existing circumstances of India without first ascertaining exactly what those circumstances were, and what was the best means by which the principles of that despatch might be applied to them at the present time. I therefore thought it wise to institute a searching inquiry into the condition of education in India. That inquiry was conducted with great ability by those to whom it was entrusted, and it has resulted in the suggestion of measures which have been in the main adopted by the Government of India, and adopted I think I may say, with general acceptance. I found, gentlemen, even from the first moment that I accepted the office of Viceroy, that those who were interested in the progress of education in India were keenly desirous for its extension among the masses of the people. But the question of primary education in India is beset by many difficulties, the chief of which arise from the very common, perhaps, but very vital difficulty—want of funds. There were those who in their zeal for elementary schools would have been prepared to see secondary and higher education imperilled and its advance delayed, but the Government of India never yielded to views of that description—(*cheers*)—and they were always determined that, whatever measures they might take to spread primary education throughout the country, they would do nothing which could endanger the advance of higher instruction. (*Cheers*) It is true that we made an appeal to private aid, and that appeal has already received many responses which are, I trust, only the first-fruits of that noble harvest which will be gathered hereafter by those who come after us. For my own part, gentlemen, I can truly say that the

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more I have studied this question in India itself, the more convinced I have become that it would be a very serious mistake to do anything which could interfere with the onward progress of higher culture—(*cheers*)—or which could tend to place it beyond the reach of youths of limited means. The Resolution which has been recently issued by the Government of India, and which constitutes almost my last political act in this country, has been framed upon these lines, and inspired by this spirit. (*Cheers.*) But, gentlemen, I am very strongly impressed with the conviction that the spread of education, and especially of Western culture, carried on, as it is, under the auspices of this and the other Indian universities, imposes new and special duties upon the Government of this country. It seems to me, I must confess, that it is little short of folly that we should throw open to increasing numbers the rich stores of Western learning; that we should inspire them with European ideas, and bring them into the closest contact with English thought; and that then we should, as it were, pay no heed to the growth of those aspirations which we have ourselves created, and the spread of those ambitions we have ourselves called forth. (*Loud cheers.*) To my mind one of the most important, if it be also one of the most difficult, problems of the Indian Government in these days is how to afford such satisfaction to those aspirations and to those ambitions as may render the men who are animated by them the hearty advocates and the loyal supporters of the British Government. (*Cheers.*) It is in such considerations as these that those who care to seek for it may find the explanation of much of the policy which I have pursued in this country. Gentlemen, at this late hour I will detain you no longer, except to assure you that the deep interest which I have felt, and ever shall feel, in the progress of education in India makes me esteem very highly indeed the honour which you have conferred upon me

Laying the foundation stone of the new Municipal Hall, Bombay.

to-day. (*Cheers.*) My best wishes will ever accompany the onward progress of this University, which is doing in India for England work so noble, and binding together the two lands and their various races with cords more powerful than the strength of armies—(*cheers*)—and more enduring than the craft of statesmen. Gentlemen, I thank you heartily. (*Loud cheers.*)

[Some time elapsed before silence was restored, and the Chancellor then formally dissolved the Convocation.]

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE NEW MUNICIPAL HALL, BOMBAY.

[On Friday afternoon, the 19th December, Lord Ripon performed the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new Municipal Hall and Offices, Bombay. Long before the arrival of His Excellency the space arranged for spectators was filled by a large number of people representative of all classes of the community, both European and Native, ladies and gentlemen. Lord Ripon on his arrival was greeted with hearty cheers by the dense crowd of people gathered outside. His Excellency, who was accompanied by Sir James Fergusson, was received by Mr. Pheroshaw M. Mehta (the chairman of the Corporation) and the Municipal Commissioner. Their Excellencies having taken their seats on the dais, Mr. Mehta read a farewell address to Lord Ripon and added a few appropriate words to it in asking His Excellency to lay the foundation stone. Lord Ripon having gone through the ceremony of laying the stone, returned to the dais and delivered the following reply to the address]:—

Your Excellency, Mr. Mehta, and Members of the Corporation of Bombay,—I can assure you, gentlemen of the Bombay Corporation, that I have received with great gratification the address which you have presented to me upon this interesting occasion, and that I rejoice to have taken a part in the ceremony of to-day, and to have borne my share in laying the first stone of the new Municipal Buildings of this great and important city. In all countries

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in which municipal institutions have flourished, as in Italy and in Flanders in the middle ages, municipal buildings have invariably formed one of the most important architectural features of the cities in which they have been erected. And so it ought to be here in India, where I anticipate for municipal institutions a great and brilliant future. It is right that here the importance of those institutions should be marked by the character of the buildings which are devoted to their objects. And certainly if that ought to be the case in other parts of India, more especially should it be so here in Bombay—in this city so rich in beautiful specimens of architecture. I am very glad indeed, therefore, to have had an opportunity at your request of taking a part in to-day's ceremony. Gentlemen, as you have reminded me in your address, the Corporation of Bombay was the first public body which welcomed me upon my arrival in India in the year 1880. I well remember that occasion, and I recollect how much I was struck by the address which I then received, and by the mien and bearing of those who presented it to me. Gentlemen, I was thereby led to make early inquiries into the constitution of your Corporation and the character of the work in which you were engaged. These inquiries soon convinced me that, at all events under favourable circumstances, the people of this country were well able to conduct the management of their own local affairs with credit to those who manage them and with advantage to their fellow-citizens. From that conviction arose in my mind the first conception of that policy for the farther development and extension of self-government which I, with the assistance of my colleagues, have since pursued. And I might say of you, without any invidious comparison with other cities, that, so far as I am concerned in this matter, you have been for me, according to the motto of your city, *Prima in Indis*. (*Cheers.*) What I had seen and heard in Bombay led me to call for further information as to the extent

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and the working of municipal institutions throughout the country generally, and especially of those which had in them an elective element. I soon discovered that there was in regard to the extent of the powers and the constitution of the institutions of that kind in this country great diversities and anomalies which appeared to me to be somewhat singular. I found, for instance, that in the great Presidency of Bombay outside this city no elective municipality at that time existed at all. I found that in Bengal, outside Calcutta there were only three such municipalities; while the North-West Provinces and Oude alone, out of the 107 municipalities, 72 enjoyed in a measure the elective franchise; and in the Central Provinces, not generally supposed to be a very advanced portion of the country, 60 municipalities, out of 61, were endowed with the right of election. Throughout India the law recognised the spread of the elective system, and it had clearly been, as it seemed to me, the object and intention of the Legislature that that system should be gradually but steadily extended. But, as I have said, its practical application was most unequal, not indeed to say capricious. Well, gentlemen, while I was considering the results of the information which had been laid before me upon this subject, the time came round when the Government of India had to renew with the various provincial Governments those quinquennial contracts which were instituted by the late Lord Mayo. When we considered what steps we should take in connexion with the renewal of those contracts, it seemed to us that the time had certainly come when a further step in the direction of decentralization might be taken—a step contemplated and desired by Lord Mayo himself—and when that decentralization which had been established between the Government of India and the local Governments subject to it might be carried down from those local Governments to the various local bodies which existed throughout their jurisdiction. We deter-

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mined to take that step, and to apply that principle of decentralization yet further throughout the country, in order that we might secure in the management of local affairs the co-operation of the best, the most intelligent, and the most trusted men in the country. (*Cheers.*) It was with this view, gentlemen, that the Resolution of the Government of the 18th May 1882 was issued. It is almost superfluous at this time of day, and after the discussions which have taken place, that I should remind you that we never dreamt of applying the full principles of that Resolution to every part of this great peninsula. We knew well enough that what might be, and would be, in our belief very suitable to the enlightened portions of the Presidency of Bombay or of the Province of Bengal, or the Presidency of Madras, might not be equally suitable, and would not be equally suitable to many less advanced portions of the country. We never thought of introducing any preconceived system of our own, devised in our own brains or copied from European examples; we never proposed a uniform, still less a very low, franchise. On the contrary, what we desired and sought for was variety in the application of our principles and the careful application of the system with due regard to the peculiar circumstances of each province and each locality. We desired to leave, and we have everywhere left, as much as possible, the application of those principles to the local Governments; and I am glad to say that with their co-operation the results already attained have been marked and important. Here, in Bombay, you of the Bombay Corporation have at the present moment 24 sister elective municipalities, where you had none in 1880; and you will ere long have many more. In Bengal, where, as I said, four years ago there were 3 elective municipalities, there are now 170, again, in the Punjab, where there were 3 in 1880, there are now 122; and in the North-West Provinces and Oude, advanced though they were at that

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time in this respect, 72 elective municipalities have grown to 97; while the organization of local boards is proceeding throughout the country, and proceeding, I have every reason to believe, in a very satisfactory manner in this Presidency. As I had occasion to mention yesterday, I have the highest official authority for stating that the results of those elections which have been already realised are of a very satisfactory character. (*Cheers.*) Such, gentlemen, is the portion of success which our policy in this respect has already attained, and we know that before many months are over, the measures which have been passed and which have now become law in all parts of the country will receive yet fuller application, and be brought into more complete operation. It remains, therefore, gentlemen, for these local bodies themselves to justify the policy which has called them into existence. The Government has shown the confidence which they repose in the people of this country, their readiness to entrust to them a larger share in the administration of their local affairs, and their desire to train them more and more for the discharge of public duties. It is for you to show that in these endeavours we have been right. I know, gentlemen, that there are those who speak of this policy of developing local self-government in India as premature. Now, a long experience of public life has taught me that when the opponents of any change do not know by what direct arguments openly to resist any proposed measure of progress, they are apt to say that it is premature. (*Laughter and cheers.*) And when that argument is brought forward my experience has further taught me that the controversy has generally reached its last stage—(*renewed cheers*)—and that the matter *solvitur ambulando*. You have only got to take the step which is called premature to prove by its success that the charge is wholly unfounded. So, I have every confidence it will be here in India under the wise and sympathetic

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guidance of your present Viceroy. (*Cheers.*) The foundation which has been laid is solid ; it will be for the people themselves to erect upon that foundation, not merely a building made with hands, such as that of which we have laid the first stone to-day, but a noble superstructure of good work done, of education extended, of sanitation advanced, of communications improved, of sickness alleviated, which will form a monument more enduring than marble for those who have laboured together for the public good. Gentlemen, it only remains for me to bid you heartily farewell. My thoughts from my English home will often turn to India, and it will ever be my most earnest prayer that it may please that God who rules beneficently over men of all nations and all races to shower down upon you His choicest blessings. (*Loud cheers.*)

[His Excellency the Governor then addressed Lord Ripon in these terms :—

“I am requested by the Chairman of the Corporation to tender you their heart-felt thanks for the service you have done them in laying the foundation-stone of their new Municipal Hall. It might have been more natural that one of themselves should have performed this pleasing duty. But I could not have excused myself without having appeared insensible to the compliment which I feel sure they intended to pay me, and for which I am very grateful. (*Hear, hear.*) No one holding my office could fail to be proud of the connexion of the Government with the great city of Bombay ; and I can assure you that I have myself taken a great pride and interest in that connexion. On my arrival here, I was greatly struck with the extraordinary progress which the city has made since my first visit here as a traveller ; and during the term of my office I have been able to see substantial progress and the promise of great development in the future. (*Hear, hear.*) My Lord, I thank you greatly, on behalf of the Corporation, for the service you have done. It is no small matter that on the eve of your departure from India you should have commenced the erection of a municipal mansion suitable to the progress of the city : and, my Lord, on these stately walls, soon to rise, there will be placed this record—that the first stone was laid by a Viceroy who will carry with him to his native land the appreciation of many millions of his earnest desire for their increased welfare. (*Loud applause.*) I therefore, my Lord, tender you again our heart-felt thanks.”(*Applause.*)

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The Commissioner then introduced the members of the Corporation to Lord Ripon, who shook hands with them. After having had some conversation with Mr. Mehta, the Hon. Rao Saheb Mandlik, and the Hon. F. Forbes Adam, who was introduced by the Governor, His Excellency left the place for the St. Xavier's College. Mr. Mehta called for three cheers for the Marquis, and for the Marchioness of Ripon, which were very cordially given.]

ADDRESS AT ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE, BOMBAY.

[The gathering of past and present students whom Lord Ripon 19th Dec. 1884. visited at St. Xavier's College immediately after the ceremony on the Esplanade was less pretentious in its character than the other assemblies attended by His Lordship during his farewell visit, but it was none the less deeply interesting. The precincts of the college were thronged, and in the hall where the past and present students were to present their address, standing-room was not to be had, and admittance had to be refused to hundreds. Lord Ripon arrived in company with Monsignor Agiardi, Bishop Meurin, Mr. H. W. Primrose, Captain Rochfort (his aide-de-camp), and Captain Dean (Military Secretary to the Governor), taking his seat on the platform, garlanded as he was. Among the many gentlemen around him were Surgeon-Major Anderson, the Rev. Father Kerr, Mr. T. B. Kirkham, Mr. Grattan Geary, Dr. Peterson, Dr. Gomes, Messrs. W. Moylan, Chubildas Lalloobhai, K. R. Cama, Manockjee Cursetjee, Surwanji Maneckji Patel, D'Aguiar, and the heads of the College; whilst His Lordship faced a host of more or less youthful faces. At the further end of the hall the College band opened the proceedings with a selection of music, and the Rector of the College (the Rev. Julius Mayer, S. J.) then expressed the thanks of the assembly to Lord Ripon for the honour and the pleasure His Lordship had afforded them by his visit. He concluded by introducing, as one of their most distinguished students, Mr. H. F. Shannon, who read a farewell address, to which Lord Ripon replied as follows:—]

Your Excellency, my Lord, and Gentlemen,—It is just about four years since I first had the good fortune to make acquaintance with St. Xavier's College in Bombay. I thought that the sight which was then presented to me

Address at St. Xavier's College, Bombay.

was a most remarkable one, but it has been greatly surpassed by that which I see before me now; and I may truly say that I thank you with a deep sense of gratitude. (*Loud cheers.*) My testimony is not needed to the efficiency of this noble institution. The vast multitude which crowds its halls to-day is proof enough of its success. I perhaps might be suspected of a not unnatural partiality if I were to speak in terms of praise of this College. But you have had many a testimony of which no man can doubt the fairness, from persons of all races, creeds, and classes, who from time to time have visited this institution, and have given with respect to it a unanimous verdict. Gentlemen, that verdict has lately been confirmed by the cordial words of him who is at the head of the Government of this great Presidency. (*Cheers.*) It is but a few days since my right honourable friend Sir James Fergusson was here, and since he told you how highly he valued the work which was done in this institution. (*Cheers.*) But he has given you a proof stronger than words of what he thinks of St. Xavier's College, for he and his colleagues have given on behalf of the Government a grant of land for the erection of the new wing, and a contribution no less munificent than Rs. 60,000. (*Cheers.*) To me it is naturally a very great gratification to know of all these undoubted proofs of the progress of this institution and of the character of the work which is done here, and I have listened to-day with special pleasure to that portion of your address, emanating from the students, past and present, of this College, in which you alluded in terms so just and so affectionate to the labours of those devoted men who are engaged in your instruction. (*Cheers.*) They deserve all the thanks and all the love which you can give them. Their motto is the motto of their Master, "Freely ye have received, freely give" Gentlemen, I have been engaged now for the space of over a month in saying a good deal upon the subject of education in India. I have had

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occasion to give expression to the very deep interest which I feel in the spread of that education in all its branches and in all directions. I shall not occupy your time to-night by repeating that which I have said upon other occasions. I am firmly convinced that the God who gave to all of us in such large degree gifts of intellect and qualities of mind intended that those gifts should be employed, and that those qualities should be developed. I am convinced that he intended that those who have the care of nations, and those who possess wealth and cultivation themselves, should see that to their less fortunate brothers the means were afforded for intellectual development. (*Cheers.*) And I believe no less that it is your duty, my young friends, not to let those gifts which have been so richly showered upon you remain barren and undeveloped. But I would have you recollect that education is a means, and not an end. The vital question is how you will use those faculties when you have developed and have trained them. That is a question vital to yourselves because upon it depends your highest interests, and it is a question vital to your country because upon it depends her progress. The end even of intellectual education, if it is to fulfil its true purpose, is a moral end. If it is to reap all the rich results which it is capable of producing, and to confer upon you all the benefits which it is capable of gaining to you, you must make the real purpose of your intellectual training the strengthening and the elevating of your moral character. (*Cheers.*) I, gentlemen, claim for the educated people of this country an increasing share in the administration of their own affairs. (*Cheers.*) I claim for them a gradually, but steadily, extending share of public duties (*renewed cheering*), of the offices of Government, and of the high places in the Government. But it is essential to such a policy that those who receive the education given here and in the other great educational institutions of the country should use that education for high and noble ends; that they should

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use it, as I have said, to elevate and to strengthen their character. It was a remark of a German writer that the future of every country depends greatly upon the character of the young men under five-and-twenty. It was a true and a sound remark; and the future of India very much depends upon these young men whom I see around me, who have been brought up in this College, who have passed their university career, and who are about to enter upon the business of life. It rests very much with you to say whether the bright hopes which some believe are dawning upon India are to be realised or whether they are to be doomed to disappointment through your fault and your failure. Aim high, then, my young friends. Remember the great responsibilities which rest upon you for the advantages which you have received, and remember how much of India's future is in your hands. (*Cheers.*) You who are the inheritors of an ancient civilization and an ancient literature which flourished when European countries were the abode of barbarism, you who can trace back your intellectual history to the ages of the past, you owe to that history a great and continuous duty. But there is something higher yet even than patriotism itself, and you owe a duty to a higher power than India. It is God who has given you the faculties that are trained here; it is God who has given you the powers that are being developed in this College, and He has entrusted them to you that you may use them for those ends for which He has given them, for His greater honour, and for the benefit of mankind. (*Cheers.*)

[A few minutes later Lord Ripon left the College, being followed into the court by hundreds who cheered again and again until the carriage drove away.]

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